

Owen mission on Rhodesia goes to Africa next week

With 1978 still the target date for Rhodesia's transition to the independent state of Zimbabwe, a team of Anglo-American experts, led by a Foreign Office specialist, is going to Africa to consult all parties, including Mr Ian Smith, to see how a settlement can be reached. Announcing this in the Commons yesterday, Dr Owen, the Foreign Secretary, said he expected the team to report back early next month.

US joins team seeking settlement in 1978

By David Spauler
Diplomatic Correspondent

In a new effort to keep the momentum going for a peaceful settlement in Rhodesia, Dr Owen, the Foreign Secretary, announced yesterday that British and American officials will go to Africa for consultations with all the parties concerned.

The team, described as a "consultative group", will be led by Mr John Graham, Deputy Under Secretary at the Foreign Office in charge of African affairs. He will start next week. Mr Vance, the American Secretary of State, will appoint a senior American official shortly. Dr Owen told the Commons yesterday that the team will go to Africa for consultations with all the parties concerned.

Both Governments wish to reiterate their determination to work for the independence of Rhodesia under majority rule in 1978. Dr Owen said, "They have been encouraged by their contacts so far to believe that detailed consultations about an independence constitution and the necessary transitional arrangements could be a satisfactory way to achieve this."

They had, therefore, agreed to work for the independence of Rhodesia under majority rule in 1978. Dr Owen said, "They have been encouraged by their contacts so far to believe that detailed consultations about an independence constitution and the necessary transitional arrangements could be a satisfactory way to achieve this."

Although Dr Owen still has 248 as the target date for independence for Rhodesia, as a new state of Zimbabwe, the target is likely to be moved. Quite apart from the difficulties and uncertainty of operation as a whole, Dr Owen believes that it would be impractical to call a constitutional conference until the end of the year.

But Dr Owen believes that, with the dangers involved in escalation of the "armed struggle", and the desire of most of the African leaders for peaceful settlement, his new line has a chance.

The United States role has been fully confirmed. American officials will work hand in glove with the British team. If Mr Mugabe or Mr Nkomo, leaders of the Patriotic Front, object to the American presence, the British side of the consultative group can proceed on its own.

But it is the firm British hope that the Patriotic Front will not boycott this latest attempt to find a settlement, and Dr Owen will not accept vetoes. In due course, a British liaison office will be established, in Dar es Salaam or Lusaka.

As for Mr Ian Smith, Dr Owen has already told him to step down before an election. A great deal depends, therefore, on the outcome of the election.

Similar legislation has been adopted in Texas, and was today signed by the governor. The new Mexican Bill, and others have been introduced in Maryland and Illinois.

New York judge ends ban on Concorde

From Peter Strafford
New York, May 11

British Airways and Air France won a significant victory in New York today when Judge Milton Tamm, of the federal district court, ruled that the ban on landings of Concorde at Kennedy airport was illegal.

Air France immediately announced that it would start daily Concorde flights into Kennedy on June 20. British Airways was more cautious, in view of the legal battles still to be fought, but said that it intended to begin its flights on the same day as Air France, whenever that might be.

The ban was imposed by the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, which runs the airport, in response to opposition to Concorde from local residents. Judge Pollack ruled today that the authority did not have the power to prevent Concorde landings for a test period, as they were approved last year by Mr William Coleman, who was then Secretary of Transportation.

The port authority's ban, he said, was "in irreconcilable conflict with a decision of the federal government. The resolution it passed in March, 1976, in which it said it would itself test Concorde operations for six months before coming to a decision, was void."

The port authority immediately said that it would appeal against the decision. Spokesmen said that, if the airlines took action to begin actual flights into Kennedy, they would apply for a stay on Judge Pollack's decision.

The judge's task was not to decide whether Concorde was too noisy to land at Kennedy. He was asked simply to rule on the constitutionality of the ban. Whether the port authority had the power to stand in the way of a decision taken by the federal government.

He found there was no doubt of the federal government's exclusive statutory responsibility for noise abatement. The fact that noise regulations were often left to local airport authorities was the result of voluntary grants of authority.

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Both airlines are ready to begin supersonic services to New York by the end of June. Their Concorde would cross the Atlantic in three and a half hours, compared with the seven hours taken by subsonic jets.

Single fares between London and New York by Concorde will be £400, compared with £330 for a first-class subsonic. Both airlines expect to have to do a minimum of marketing in the United States, where Concorde is already well known among the business community through the publicity surrounding the crash of a Concorde in France.

Mr Strouthous, president of the students' union at the Polytechnic of North East London and a member of the National Union of Students, national executive, was sent to prison for an indefinite period yesterday after he had refused to obey a High Court injunction banning him from the polytechnic premises.

The college had applied for Mr Strouthous's commitment on the ground that he was in contempt of court in continuing to enter college premises despite an injunction obtained on April 6.

Mr Strouthous, aged 29, a member of the Socialist Workers' Party and a former social security officer, has taken a year's sabbatical leave from his job to study sociology to serve as the union's full-time president. In November, he was expelled from the college for his part in disrupting a governors' meeting. But he ignored the expulsion and continued to work in the union offices on the campus. Earlier this year he took part in a sit-in occupation of buildings in protest against increased fees.

That occupation ended when the college obtained the injunction against him and four other students, restraining them from trespassing.

At yesterday's trial Mr Justice Kerr told him: "I have not the slightest desire to send you to prison and I hope you have not any desire to go there as a martyr. But the court's orders and the law have got to be obeyed."

Mr Strouthous replied: "I am the democratically elected president of the students' union. I will carry out my job. I will not be intimidated by this court." He argued that the college had no right to exclude him from premises licensed to the union.

Police officers were called into the court when more than a hundred students in the public gallery began shouting and banging on benches. They were ushered out into the Strand.

Mr Charles Clarke, president of the National Union of Students, said he deeply regretted the High Court decision to imprison Mr Strouthous. Internal college disputes could never be resolved by court action, he said.

Mr Karl Darby, head of the polytechnic's education and information division, said: "We are very sorry things have had to reach this stage. We had hoped all along that our differences with the students' union could be resolved by negotiation. But they were not prepared to meet us halfway."

Appointment of Mr Callaghan's son-in-law was Foreign Secretary's personal choice 'Times' Economics Editor to be Washington Ambassador

By Our Diplomatic Correspondent

In a move which took the diplomatic world by surprise yesterday, Dr Owen, the Foreign Secretary, announced the appointment of Mr Peter Jay, the Economics Editor of The Times, as British ambassador in Washington.

The appointment is Dr Owen's personal choice. The hardest part about his decision was to persuade the Prime Minister that to send his son-in-law to this most important of diplomatic posts was the right thing to do, despite the obvious risk of charges of nepotism.

Dr Owen has known Mr Jay, who is aged 40, for some years and has the highest regard for his talents. His primary consideration, however, was the advantages of appointing such a young man to Washington at a time when a new and young American Administration is taking office.

He introduced Mr Jay to President Carter and Mr Vance, the Secretary of State, during the summit meeting this week. Mr Jay, who is married to Mr Callaghan's daughter Margaret, will take up his new post in early July.

The present ambassador, Sir Peter Ramebootham, who has had an extremely distinguished career in the diplomatic service, has been appointed Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Bermuda. He is aged 57 and will have some two and a half years to go before retirement.

Announcing the change, Dr Owen paid particular tribute to his achievements in Washington. There are several precedents for a political appointment in Washington, notably Sir Oliver Franks (1948-52), Sir David Graham (1952-55), Sir John Freeman (1955-57) and Lord Cromer (1957-74).

Mr Jay is a rather younger man than his predecessors, but Dr Owen sees his own appointment as Foreign Secretary as a clear pointer to the same direction. Washington is a special case, however, and he would not expect to make any other ambassadorial appointments outside the diplomatic service.

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Surprise was the dominant reaction in Whitehall last night, where the appointment was totally unexpected. For the Foreign Office, which is anxiously awaiting the report on its activities by the Think Tank, the news cannot have been other than shocking.

A further point about a political appointment is the question of what would happen if a Conservative government came to power. It would be open to a new prime minister to make a change, but Dr Owen probably takes the view that the present Government is not about to be defeated.

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The Government will hold out the prospect of a reversal of the recent trend towards falling living standards, arguing that a 10 to 12 per cent rise in earnings combined with other economic measures, including income tax cuts, will give a 1 per cent rise in real take-home pay.

Productivity bargains will be allowed during phase three of the social contract if they can be shown to be self-financing, but the Treasury wants payment to be made quarterly rather than annually, so that the Government can be sure that the company's auditors—Ministers—are resigned to the fact that the TUC will not negotiate in any other way, leaving machinery on the lines of the Tories pay board.

Violence continued in many parts of Ulster yesterday. By last night three people had been killed, two victims of loyalist paramilitary groups and the third believed to have been a Protestant involved in making a bomb. Twenty-eight civilians have been injured and 38 police officers have been reported hurt. In addition, 105 loyalists have so far been convicted, charged or summoned for a variety of offences connected with the strike, ranging from intimidation to riotous behaviour.

The economic damage caused by the campaign is thought to have risen to serious proportions despite the refusal of most ordinary workers to heed the strike call.

Last night a senior academic source at Queen's University, Belfast, estimated the cost to industry and commerce through lost production and orders at more than £5m. That figure will be much increased if foreign investment is deterred by the widespread international publicity given to the strike.

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Leader page, 19
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Continued on page 2, col 3

Continued on page 2, col 3

Continued on page 2, col 3

Government expects to get phase three deal based on 10% pay rises

By Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

The Government expects to agree with the TUC on a new deal for the pay policy in mid-July, based on an average 10 per cent rise in earnings over the next year. Mr Healey, the Chancellor, rates his chances of winning a realistic wage restraint deal at 6 to 4 in favour.

Mr Healey, who had further talks with union leaders earlier this week, expects negotiations on the social contract to be more prolonged than in previous years, but he is determined to see matters through to a successful conclusion. It is accepted in the Cabinet that final endorsement of the third year of income policy will have to wait until the end of the TUC in September.

To reach an agreement that will genuinely avoid an uncontrolled surge in wages, the Chancellor is willing to modify

his expectations by a further 2 per cent, in the realisation that flexible pay bargaining will prompt greater wage drift than the tight curbs of the past two years.

Timing is regarded as of the essence. The International Monetary Fund team of inspectors is due to visit Britain soon, and Mr Owen wants to impose on the inspectors the likelihood of a deal with the unions during the weekend of July 3-10, immediately after the policy-making conference of the unions and the transport workers on whose assent so much depends.

The Government will hold out the prospect of a reversal of the recent trend towards falling living standards, arguing that a 10 to 12 per cent rise in earnings combined with other economic measures, including income tax cuts, will give a 1 per cent rise in real take-home pay.

Productivity bargains will be allowed during phase three of the social contract if they can be shown to be self-financing, but the Treasury wants payment to be made quarterly rather than annually, so that the Government can be sure that the company's auditors—Ministers—are resigned to the fact that the TUC will not negotiate in any other way, leaving machinery on the lines of the Tories pay board.

In particular, the Government expects that it will have to pay for a productivity deal in the next year. The issue of how much flexibility—in reality, extra money—will be allowed in the third year of income policy is expected to be the chief stumbling block when the unions and the Government meet to negotiate in earnest very soon. The Government would like to see a figure set in any agreement, but realises that that may be politically impossible.

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Continued on page 2, col 3

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Continued on page 2, col 3

Continued on page 2, col 3

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Execution by injection in Oklahoma

From Peter Strafford
New York, May 11

Oklahoma has adopted legislation which provides for the death penalty to be carried out by intravenous injection of drugs. The Bill was signed into law yesterday by Governor David Boren in Oklahoma City and makes Oklahoma the first state to adopt this form of execution.

Mr Bill Dawson, a state senator and the main promoter of the legislation, said death should come in a matter of seconds. The process, initially would be similar to anaesthesia for surgery, since the dose would include a barbiturate mainly designed to induce sleep.

But the dose would also include a chemical paralytic which would certainly cause death. The two drugs would be fed into the injection tube from two lesser tubes. Similar legislation has been adopted in Texas, and was today signed by the governor. The new Mexican Bill, and others have been introduced in Maryland and Illinois.

Leaders of Nato agreed on Carter proposals

Parliamentary report, page 19

Nato leaders ended their meeting in London yesterday by adopting three proposals made by President Carter before he flew home. Mr Carter said the 15 member-nations would co-operate in defence production, produce a programme for the 1980s and assess long-term trends in East-West relations. They will meet again in Washington next spring. American officials considered the meeting a real success.

Report and text page 8

Ulster Unionist MPs saved the Government from defeat when they abstained at the end of a debate in the Commons on agriculture. The voting figures were 273 to 271, a government majority of two.

Parliamentary report, page 16

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Brussels turns down Britain on fishing

The European Commission has rejected proposals to allow British fishing vessels within their own waters. Mr Jenkins and his colleagues also decided

HOME NEWS

Substandard homes decline by two fifths in five years

By John Young
Planning Reporter

The number of substandard dwellings in England and Wales has fallen by more than 40 per cent in the past five years, according to estimates disclosed yesterday for the first time by the Department of the Environment.

The figures are based upon a hitherto unpublished survey carried out by the department last autumn and were given in evidence to a Commons select committee on expenditure. They will come as a distinct surprise to critics of housing policy, although it must be emphasized that they relate only to the physical fabric of buildings and not to questions of overcrowding and homelessness.

Clash over who runs Notting Hill carnival

By Robert Parker

The police and Kensington and Chelsea Council are concerned about the possible effect on this year's Notting Hill Carnival of a bitter division among West Indians about who should run the show.

Last year the carnival, which was attended by about 250,000 people over two days, ended in a riot with serious damage to property and injuries to more than 250 people, including many police.

The carnival is due to take place this year through the streets of Notting Hill on August 28 and 29, but, because of the dispute, there have been no talks about how it should be organized.

Mr Michael Cox, chairman of the council's voluntary organizations' liaison committee, who on Tuesday unsuccessfully tried to reconcile the two groups who claim the right to organize the carnival, said yesterday that he would have liked preparations to have begun last November.

He said: "We are now into May, and as yet there have been no talks. It really is rather disturbing." Mr Cox and the police have offered both groups further talks, on condition that both sides offered constructive suggestions.

The dispute is between the Carnival Development Committee, which has traditionally organized the occasion, and the newly formed Notting Hill Carnival of Arts Committee.

Mr Selwyn Baptiste, a West Indian poet and musician and the director of the Carnival Development Committee, said yesterday that the other committee was trying to make political capital out of the carnival, and turn it to its own political advantage. Its members had no experience of handling the carnival, and should "clear out", he said.

Mr Louis Chese, head of the arts committee, said his committee, and chairman of the Westminster Community Relations Council, said his com-

mittee's main objective was to take account of the local community's wishes. The committee set up after an election by local bodies, had come into being because of "the lack of organization which led to last year's troubles".

There are many differences between the two committees, but they share the view that there should not be a large number of police at the carnival. Last year about 1,500 police were present, against 60 the year before.

Many people argue that the riot was triggered by the large numbers of police who moved in to arrest pickpockets who were clearly visible in the crowd.

Everybody, including the police, say lessons have been learnt from last year's riot. The three police commanders who have responsibility for this year's carnival are anxious that it should be a happy occasion.

Like the local council, however, they are concerned that there is no body clearly responsible for its organization.

The three officers, Commanders John Thornton, Charles Jackman and Edgar Maybank, are meeting between the two groups. As yet the level of policing at the carnival has not been decided.

Although the police are determined not to be accused again of provoking trouble, it is clear that a visible crime will again not be allowed to pass unchallenged. It is also probable that although police strength will be considerable, it will be far less conspicuous than last year.

The only possible solution to the dispute at the moment seems to lie in which committee gets financial support from the Arts Council, the Community Relations Commission, and other official bodies. The Carnival Development Committee says its budget for this year is £99,000, against last year's £10,000. The Carnival of Arts Committee's budget is much less than £99,000.

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Phase three rejected by AUEW conference

From Tim Jones
Labour Reporter
Eastbourne

The Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers committed itself to a clash with the Government when it decided yesterday to reject a further year of wage restraint. It ignored warnings by Mr Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, that failure to agree on a phase-three pay policy would lead to higher prices, fewer jobs, and less investment for industry.

Delegates to the conference after being told by Mr John Baldwin, general secretary of the construction section, that union leaders were losing their credibility with their members. If there was a phase three, he said, unless officials might lose control of their members.

His account of frustration, hostility and hatred by the rank and file was the clearest exposition yet by any union leader of the difficulties of defending the social contract.

Referring to the present pay policy, he said: "We are policing a policy that our people are completely rejecting." Frustrations within the union were such that this week his office in London had been occupied and last month in Scotland, he had been threatened with a knife.

"I can take as much abuse as the next man, but the time must come when enough is enough," he said. "It is not nice to have your shirt ripped, to face open hostility and hatred because you are trying to defend a discredited policy."

The knife, he said, had been pointed at him by an angry picker after he had addressed a mass meeting at Highland Fabrication, on the Cromarty Firth. He showed the knife and said: "Well, set you."

"I am not seeking a free-for-all, but I want to be able to negotiate freely within my industry for what that industry can afford."

The resolution was passed by 51 votes, with 18 abstentions, but it does not necessarily mean that the union is committed to placing its 1,000,000 block vote against any phase three agreement when the matter is discussed by the TUC in September. That is because the dominant engineering section of the union might change its attitude at another conference, which it may call to review the negotiations between the TUC and the Government.

Mr James's eleven-hour intervention came two weeks ago, on the eve of a sale of the Evening Standard to Associated

Newspapers, which owns the rival Evening News. The News has a bigger sale but higher costs and losses, estimated to be above £4m in the coming year. It is for the Standard, which has a high advertising revenue.

It is quiet in Fleet Street, although Sir Max Aitken, chairman of Beaverbrook, is visiting London this week. The takeover of the Standard, which has been begun at Westminster. Some MPs are concerned that all parties to the discussions and some government departments have too readily accepted as facts assumptions which are not true.

There is a strong feeling that there might be further alternatives to ensure the financial soundness of all five titles involved in the Daily Mail being Associated's profitable daily and a rival to the Daily Express.

Such alternatives might be fruitfully discussed but could be overlooked while those concerned study the smooth operation of the Goldsmith proposals.

If both groups were to get together for discussions that would also include Sir James, there might be much potential for sharing ideas, especially in production and distribution, which would benefit both groups and, "that forgotten band, the readers", as an MP anonymously described the mil-

lions of people who buy the newspapers involved and who, he contends, are being treated like a minority group.

It is thus possible that efforts could now be made to ask the Monopolies Commission to suspend any deal for a time to encourage further talks for the health of Fleet Street generally, perhaps even to await study of the Press Commission report, which is due for publication within two months and will be available to the Government very soon.

While there might be a need for some immediate reductions in longer-term plans might save further cuts. It is difficult to see how Associated News papers could resist Sir James and the Beaverbrook board's approval for his scheme, but there is no doubt that the Evening News would then be in danger of closing.

Should the situation involve in-fighting between Beaverbrook and Associated, the issue becomes very much more one of who will win, and such considerations as keeping newspapers viable may be forgotten.

Fleet Street has got it wrong so often that there is some scepticism about getting it right this time without further exploration of alternatives and cooperation. "Merely winning" no longer matters.

Compulsory redundancies are being resisted as far as possible, although volunteers often tend to leave some production areas dangerously understaffed while overstaffing continues in other divisions. If cuts are to continue to be resisted, there is now as much need to consider the possible fate of the News, at risk despite the support it receives from its holding company, Associated, as from diversification.

For too long the cry has been for Fleet Street to act. Now there might well be a request for time to stop and think.

Our Business News Staff writes: Associated Newspapers yesterday disclosed that it has bought a further 50,000 ordinary shares in Beaverbrook Newspapers on May 5. That adds to an existing long-standing shareholding of 13,850 ordinary shares and shares of 250,000 shares in Beaverbrook Newspapers on May 5. That adds to an existing long-standing shareholding of 13,850 ordinary shares and shares of 250,000 shares in Beaverbrook Newspapers on May 5.

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Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19



Spending cuts: protest. Several thousand members of the National Union of Public Employees (Nupe), including school meals service workers, caretakers, dustmen, and hospital manual staff, marched through London yesterday to lobby MPs at the House of Commons in protest against the Government's cuts in public spending (our Labour Editor writes). They were

joined by Mr Terence Ellis (centre right, holding banner), headmaster of the former William Tyndale Junior school in Islington, London, and some of his fellow teachers, whose dismissal was recommended by a disciplinary tribunal last month. Nupe, whose members in London went on strike the day, said that a third of a million children in greater London could not

attend school yesterday because of its action. Hospitals, universities, and polytechnics also were affected. At the Commons the protesters were told by Mr Alan Fisher, general secretary of the TUC and a member of the TUC General Council: "If this government does not adopt alternative policies it looks as though it could go down to defeat at the next general election."

Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19

Prospects hopeful for deal on 'Express' group

By Sheila Black

A quiet week in Fleet Street has left the industry believing that the Beaverbrook Newspapers group, involving the Sunday and Daily Express titles and the London Evening Standard, will come under the control of Sir James Goldsmith's Cavenham Foods concern. Sir James is due to return from Paris, where he also has business interests, tonight.

He will make a positive statement to the Beaverbrook directors and others reports on voluntary redundancies to reduce manning and on other cost-cutting proposals. It is believed that he will make a positive statement to the Beaverbrook directors and others reports on voluntary redundancies to reduce manning and on other cost-cutting proposals.

Should prospects prove as hopeful as Sir James and the Beaverbrook directors believe them to be, Sir James would be invited to join the board and steps taken to enfranchise the company's A shares, which carry no votes and of which Sir James already controls 40 per cent. Further injections of cash would be sought by means of rights issues but the group's interim needs would be met by bank overdrafts for Sir James and his associates.

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Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19

Early traces of intelligent life at Hampstead

By Philip Howard

Evidence has been discovered of intelligent human life in Hampstead eight millennia before it was previously believed to have arrived in that lofty suburb at any rate by the folk that live there.

An archaeological excavation on Hampstead Heath has uncovered what appears to be the first Mesolithic camp site found in the London area. The site was discovered last year by a member of the Hampstead and District Archaeological Society, who stumbled over some worked flints on a path beside the Leg of Mutton Pond at the northern edge of Hampstead Heath. The path led over a slight bluff and was being rapidly eroded.

With the co-operation of the GLC, the Nature Conservancy, and the London Natural History Society, the Hampstead Archaeological Society is excavating the site. The work has turned up no fewer than 7,500 man-made flint flakes, of which 74 were recognizably Mesolithic tools. By comparing the types with those from other sites, it can be dated to the early Mesolithic period from about 6,000 to 6,200 BC.

The excavation has also disclosed evidence of fire and hearths indicating some form of crude shelter. Flints have been found in profusion in one place, where they were "knapped", and in other places away from the work area, showing that the tools were used.

The picture that is emerging of the first known inhabitants of the London area is of a small family group with a fire, a wind-break, a place where they ate and knapped flints, and other places where they ate and worked. They were hunter-gatherers from the age before man learnt to farm and make pottery, the latter of which is still thought to have been introduced to Britain by the Romans.

The soil on the site is very acidic, and therefore there is no organic matter left for the archaeologists. However, 300 metres away there is a small bog, where they have sunk a trench and are excavating samples to illuminate the transition from hunting to farming about 6000 BC.

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Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19

Letters, page 19

More newspapers still possible, peers told

By Hugh Noyes
Parliamentary Correspondent

Lord Gibson, chairman of the Financial Times, and Lord Gifford, chairman of the News of the World, told the House of Lords yesterday that more newspapers could be possible, but there was a long way to go before the present trend could be reversed.

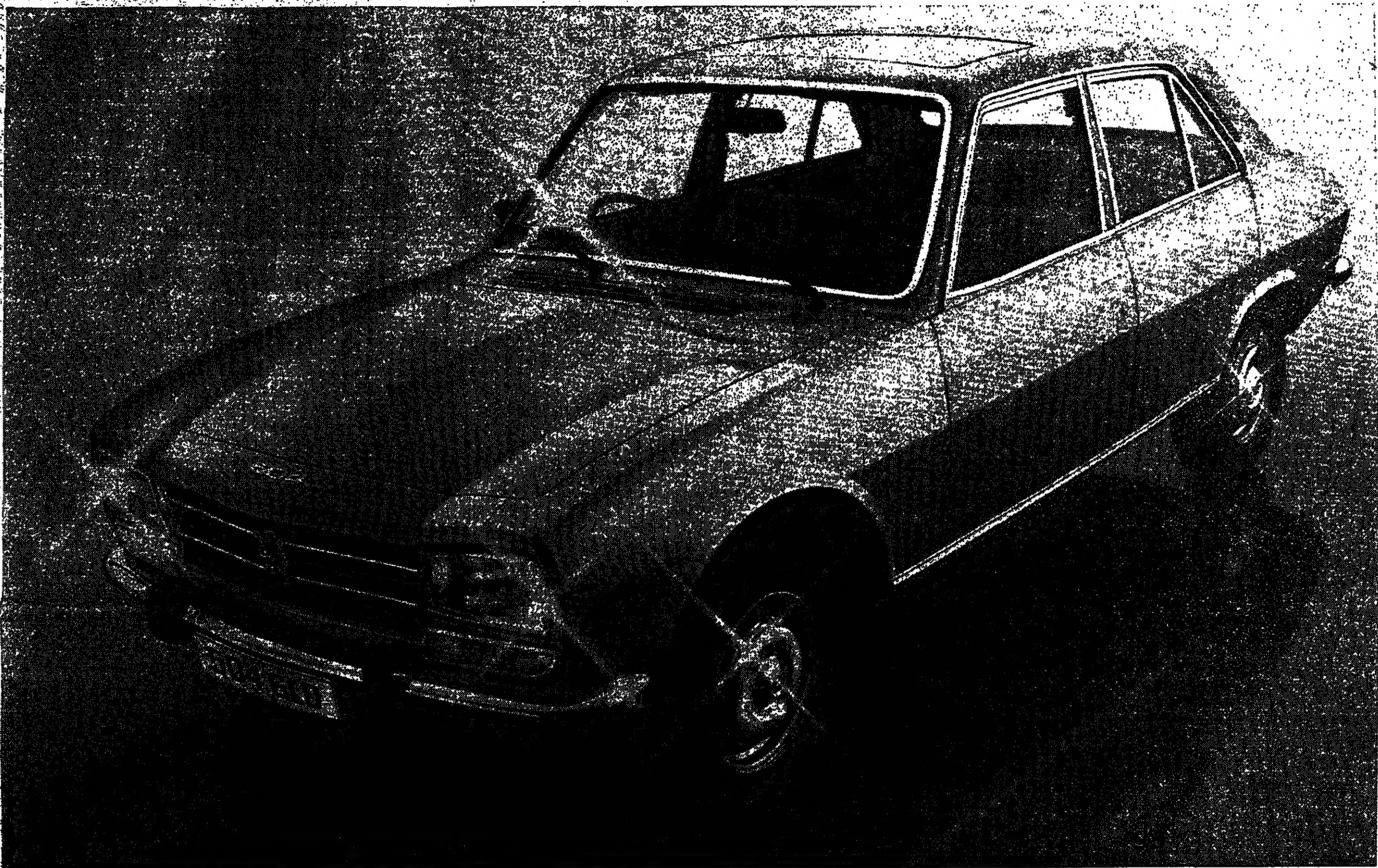
Millions had gained ground among journalists during the past decade because journalists had seen their status as a profession, but there was a long way to go before the present trend could be reversed.

They were talking during a debate on the press in which several peers had given warnings of groups within the National Union of Journalists that were pressing for a right of application of the closed shop and were attempting political censorship.

Lord Gibson said he did not want a licensed press with the NUJ issuing licences in the form of union cards. More newspapers would be needed as outlets for differing points of view, but there was a long way to go before the present trend could be reversed.

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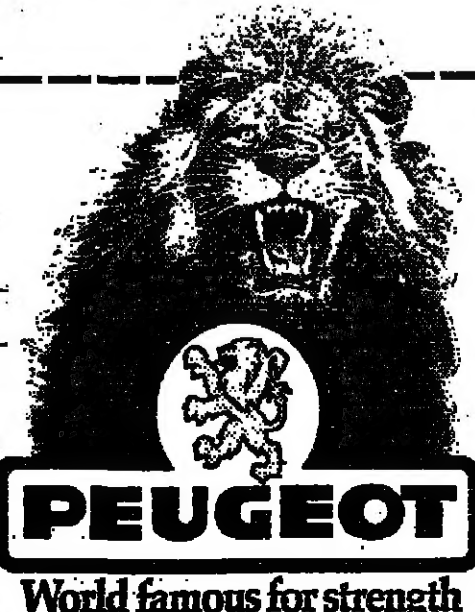
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HOME NEWS

Windscale inquiry a block on £350m Japanese contract

By Pearce Wright
Science Editor

An analysis of the case for building the controversial plant for reprocessing nuclear waste at Windscale, Cumbria, was published by British Nuclear Fuels yesterday. It suggests that the equivalent of 35 million tons of coal a year could be recovered by extracting uranium and plutonium from the spent fuels, which would come from Japanese, British and other power stations.

The statement also reveals that a 10-year contract to reprocess 1,600 tonnes of oxide fuel from Japan is ready for signing, as far as technical considerations are concerned.

The outstanding issues to prevent completion are clearly the public inquiry into plans for Windscale and the attitude of the Government, which is involved because the enriched oxide fuel from Japan originated in the United States. The transfer of the fuel to a third country for reprocessing can be done only with an American licence. Licensing is being examined by a special study group on the nuclear question established by the summit meeting in London last weekend.

The Japanese contract would be worth £200m for reprocessing plus a further £150m for transport. Another 1,600 tonnes would be reprocessed by the Windscale plant, which British Nuclear Fuels will provide the transport arrangements for both organisations.

An outline of the case for expansion has to be submitted

before a public inquiry. British Nuclear Fuels said yesterday that the document had been sent to organisations and individuals who will be opposing the development. The inquiry opens on June 14 at the request of Mr Shore, Secretary of State for the Environment.

The main arguments in support of the scheme are that reprocessing helps energy conservation and provides the best means of isolating long-life radioactive wastes.

Much of the case for expansion focuses on advantages of building a big reprocessing plant to take British and overseas fuel. New plant could not be in operation until the late 1980s, by which time 500 tonnes of oxide fuels from the advanced gas-cooled reactors now coming into operation in the United Kingdom could be expected each year.

Development and design work show, according to British Nuclear Fuels, that capital and operating costs for a plant to reprocess 1,200 tonnes a year would be only a fifth greater than one for 500 tonnes. Hence the conclusion that construction of a 1,200-tonne plant to accept overseas business would be desirable, contributing £600m in the long term to the balance of trade.

It is estimated that the new plant will provide 750 jobs for local people and, of course, savings for contractors. The case for the opponents of reprocessing plans are among the subjects of a meeting on a non-nuclear world to be held on Saturday.



Age and beauty: A 1926 three-litre Bentley, one of 54 Bentley and Rolls-Royce cars in a Vintage Transport Enthusiasts' Club auction at Alexandra Palace, London, yesterday. Prices paid included £12,500 for a 1924 Bentley.

Cruelty to elderly 'is increasing'

From John Roger
Health Services Correspondent
Bournemouth

Surprise was expressed at the conference of the Royal College of Nursing, at Bournemouth yesterday, at the recent statement by Mr. Eames, Secretary of State for Social Services, that there is no evidence of increasing cruelty to old people in their own homes.

Such cruelty seems to be increasing, the conference was told. Nurses, particularly health visitors and community nurses, often knew of or suspected incidents, but facts were difficult to establish.

Mr. Stanley Holder, a member of the college council, said an independent body should be established to investigate suspected incidents.

Mrs Jean Perrin, a nursing officer from Bournemouth, said a member of the college's Society of Primary Health Care Nursing, said a new pattern of behaviour might be developing. Her district had a population of 5,000, but in the past two months she had been involved in two cases of abuse. One concerned a physically feeble woman of 85, and the other a severely disabled man aged 58.

In 18 years of district nursing, those were the first such cases she had seen.

Mrs. Molly Curry, a community nursing sister, of Cleveland, said she had become suspicious of the way a paralysed man of 85 was being treated by his wife. She noticed that his nose was severely abused and considered that it might have been rubbed on a rough carpet.

Mrs. Elizabeth Hannah, a casualty unit nurse from Swindon, said doctors were reluctant to believe that incidents of family violence took place. A girl had admitted to nurses that she had kicked her grand-uncle, who was confined to the unit with a leg injury, which needed three months' treatment; but it had been difficult to persuade the doctor that the injury was not accidental.

Mrs. Margaret Pickett, of Leeds, said mental cruelty, she took place. Children or elderly people were sometimes kept out of the way and not spoken to. Miss Margaret Davis, a health visitor from Gwynedd, said that since the war, she had normally worked a 9-to-5 day, it was difficult to collect evidence of incidents occurring after 5 pm.

Miss Eames, Few of the Society of Primary Health Care

Nursing, suggested a 24-hour service by health visitors.

During a debate on the need for nurses trained overseas to have a competent knowledge of English, a hint was given that a language test might be introduced. Miss Catherine Hall, general secretary of the college, said the general nursing council was studying the need for a test in the country of origin of immigrant nurses. A pilot study had been completed.

The conference carried a motion urging Mr. Eames to ensure that all overseas nurses and students employed in the National Health Service should have an adequate knowledge of English.

A wide knowledge of English is particularly important in dealing with psychiatric patients, it was suggested. Nurses were required to do much talking and listening. Knowledge of English, colloquialisms and even obscenities were necessary for understanding patients.

The meeting discussed the development of policy in preparation for a possible return to free collective bargaining later this year.

Summing up the debate Miss Hall said that members wanted not only restoration of differential, but better differentials, reflecting qualifications.

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Miss Adey-Jones said the officer held her wrists tightly and in order to make her let go she peeled back her fingers. She also pleaded with her and a police constable to let go. Then she lashed out and kicked PC Avery between the legs.

It had been alleged that Miss Adey-Jones had been picked up by kicking him. But Judge David, QC, said the incident arose from the snatching of the handbag containing the spray.

In law, if the bag and spray had been taken without force it would have been lawful for the police to retain them. But the court would conclude that the taking of the bag was unlawful if it was by force. She was not under arrest at the time her face was slapped and there was no justification.

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AIR FRANCE ADD MANAUS TO THEIR SOUTH AMERICAN NETWORK.



Isle of Man still backs birching policy

From Our Correspondent
Douglas, Isle of Man

The Isle of Man's defiance of international pressure to make it abolish its birching law was made clear yesterday. It is in the text of a formal resolution to go before Tynwald, the Manx Parliament, on Tuesday.

The resolution takes note of last year's majority decision of the European Commission on Human Rights that birching is in breach of the Convention on Human Rights as a "degrading treatment or punishment", and adds that Tynwald reaffirms its policy to retain birching for crimes of violence as a "desirable safeguard in the control of law and order in this island".

Since the commission's decision the Manx Government has resisted moves by Strasbourg and Whitehall to get a total ban on birching. As a result, formal charges are to be laid before the European Court of Human Rights, which will be answered by the British Government as signatory to the Convention on Human Rights on behalf of the island.

The resolution may embarrass Britain, which was asked by Strasbourg to try to achieve an amicable settlement by getting the Manx Parliament to abolish birching. It calls on the British Government to uphold Tynwald's policy in the international court and get a reversal of the European commission's condemnation of birching.

Widmermere's ferry service will not operate over the Spring Bank Holiday or silver jubilee period. The boat is being examined for structural defects.

Busmen strike
Bus services between Nottingham and Derby were disrupted yesterday when 200 busmen employed by the Trent and Mersey went on strike over the dismissal of a workmate.

Council house sales
Nottingham City Council is receiving a thousand inquiries every week after announcing council houses for sale at between £4,400 and £12,000.

Jubilee lifeboat
Eastbourne has been allocated a new lifeboat as part of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution's celebrations for the silver jubilee.

Sentence on Fittleton commander quashed

By Arthur Reed

The conviction of Lieutenant-Commander Peter Paget, commander of the minesweeper Fittleton, which sank last September with the loss of 12 lives, was quashed yesterday by the High Court. The sentence of a year in prison was also annulled.

The sentence against Commander Paget, a Royal Naval Reserve officer, to be imprisoned for a year was quashed. The sentence of a year in prison was also annulled.

The official announcement stated that the Admiralty Board of the Defence Council had reviewed the proceedings of the Portsmouth court martial in February, and had considered a petition made by the accused's friend.

It continued: "The Admiralty Board has concluded that the Lieutenant-Commander Paget made some errors of judgment, these did not amount to negligence under section 19

of the Naval Discipline Act. In these circumstances the Admiralty Board has decided that the conviction is unsafe and unsatisfactory, and has accordingly quashed the conviction, and annulled the sentence."

HMS Fittleton sank after colliding with the frigate Mermaid in the North Sea. Commander Paget was found guilty of one charge of negligence. The sentence of a year in prison was the lightest one possible.

On three other charges of negligence, including the most serious one of allowing his ship to be lost, he was found not guilty.

Commander Paget, aged 44, who works in a London shipbuilding office, was found guilty of hazarding his ship because of his negligence in failing to reduce speed drastically and then moving away in small steps to extricate the Fittleton from a dangerous position alongside the Mermaid.

Adult education body likely to start in autumn

By a Staff Reporter

The first meeting of the Advisory Council for Adult and Continuing Education is expected to be held early in the autumn, Mr. Oakes, Minister of State for Education and Science, has announced. It is four years since a recommendation for such a council was put forward in the Russell committee report on adult education.

Revised proposals for the advisory committee and final details of its establishment were discussed at a meeting on Tuesday between Mr. Oakes and representatives of various organisations including local authority associations, the National Institute of Adult Education, professional and student bodies, the TUC and the CBI. Mr. Oakes asked those present to submit suggestions for members of the new council by June 10.

Adult education was going through a difficult time, he told the meeting. It would be unrealistic to think that the new council could resolve those difficulties, but it should be able to ensure that, when the economy improved, the adult education service was on a sound footing and in a position to take advantage of expanding opportunities.

Public Record Office starts to move house on Monday

By a Staff Reporter

Records will start being removed to the new Public Record Office at Kew on Monday. Kew is expected to open to the public in October.

The annual report of the Keeper of Public Records, published today, indicates that in spite of the continuing reduction in funds available for research, both in the United Kingdom and overseas, the number of visits to the search rooms during 1976 (89,300) was only 1 per cent less than in 1975. The number of documents produced for readers is estimated to be about 325,000, 3.15 per cent more than the previous year's total.

Mr. J. R. Ede, the keeper, reports on the changing focus of public interest. The records of the Foreign Office and Cabinet Office continue to attract a large international clientele, and interest is beginning to shift to the postwar period. Several recently published books and broadcasts have focused attention on specific wartime events and technical developments, and the records of the defence department, particularly those dealing with the R.A.F., have been much used for detailed operational studies.

Interest in the older records has been fully maintained, and many classes of records of the

sixteenth to nineteenth centuries are being explored in new ways by quantitative historians. Census records, for example, whose popularity with genealogists is unabated, are being increasingly used for demographic and social studies.

The Public Record Office has been obliged to suspend the Saturday morning opening of the Census Room in Portugal Street. Members of the Society of Civil and Public Servants, who undertake Saturday morning duty on a voluntary basis, have withdrawn their voluntary cooperation to register dissatisfaction with the terms that will apply to staff who are transferred to Kew.

The public records, in five repositories, fill 400,000 or 75 miles of shelving. Accessions during 1976 included the minutes and memoranda of the Cabinet 1945-48; files of the Cabinet Office Historical Section, 1939-67; minutes and proceedings of the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, 1745-1945; chemical warfare records, 1905-23; a collection of German drawings relating to rocket propulsion, 1939-46; death duty registers, 1894-1902; and records of a number of government research and scientific establishments.

The *Eighteenth Annual Report of the Keeper of Public Records*, Stationery Office, 60p.

HOME NEWS

Kirk report urges early devolution referendum

From Ronald Faux, Edinburgh

A call for a referendum followed by quick action on Scottish devolution is to be made in the General Assembly to the Church of Scotland, which opens on May 24.

A report by the church and nation committee, published yesterday, said the failure of the Government's guillotine motion in the Commons raised serious difficulties. All four main parties in the last general election had promised some kind of Scottish parliament with greater or lesser powers. It seemed clear that, no matter how the Scottish electorate voted, the setting up of a Scottish legislature depended on enough English, Welsh and Irish MPs supporting their Scottish colleagues.

Statements that such a constitutional change in the government of the United Kingdom must be the rushed, and that there ought to be adequate consultation, sounded reasonable, except that self-government had been seriously discussed in Scotland for decades. "It is not the fault of the Scottish electorate that many non-Scottish MPs have been uninterested in what was happening in Scotland. It is unjust to claim that devolution has suddenly been foisted upon them. This is not so," the report stated.

For the future of Scotland and the United Kingdom, it was vital that an effective new initiative should be taken, it added. Otherwise there was the danger that bitterness and frustration would increase. As the Kilbrandon commission had stated, "there are some substantial and persistent causes of discontent which may contain the seeds of more serious trouble".

Football club theft

Gerald Albert Halsey, aged 35, of Merrow Woods, Guildford, Surrey who was caring manager of Chelsea Football Club, was fined £100 at Horseferry Road Magistrates' Court, London, yesterday, for stealing a £400 ice-making machine from the ground.

Gypsy site study

A tour of gypsy sites will be made on Monday by Mr Marks, Under-Secretary of State, Department of the Environment. He will visit authorized and unauthorized caravan sites at Oldham, Preston and Liverpool.

Tories' Perth agenda cool on devolution

The Scottish Conservatives begin their annual conference in Perth today cooler than ever towards devolution, and with an agenda containing more resolutions opposing a Scottish assembly or complaining of the dangers of separatism.

The debate this afternoon will focus on a motion welcoming the Commons' action in preventing the enactment of the Scotland and Wales Bill which would allow adequate discussion. It calls for a "searching re-examination" of the entire structure of government as the basis of fresh proposals for effective devolution.

To pro-devolution Tories, the selection of this motion from a list of 52, some of them enthusiastically in favour of setting up a directly elected Scottish assembly, signals that the party handover is being applied and that the Tory appetite for devolution has increased little since Mr Heath's famous declaration made in Perth in 1968.

Mr Edward Taylor, Conservative MP for Glasgow, Cathcart, may be finding it difficult to conceal his own strong distaste for devolution beneath his mantle as opposition spokesman on Scottish affairs, and Mrs Thatcher has not emerged as one to press any measure that a substantial number of Tories believe could damage the unity of Britain.

Mr Taylor has admitted that anyone seeking a cast-iron commitment to a set of proposals on the Scottish assembly would not be happy with the motion, but he believed it was the one that came closest to the views of the party in Scotland.

The reply to the debate will be given by Mr Francis Pym, opposition spokesman on devolution and House of Commons affairs, who recently called for all-party talks on the subject without preconditions or pre-conceptions. As the Perth delegates are likely to find, no preconditions may be possible, but not to expect preconditions, in the Scottish political climate is to demand the moon.

The conference will end on Saturday with a rally addressed by Mrs Thatcher. Earlier that day a private session will consider the Fairgrieve report on party organization. It proposes that full administrative, organizational and financial control of the central office in Edinburgh should be transferred to the Scottish director of organization, who would work directly with Central Office in London.

The Conservative board of finance's activities in Scotland would be executive controlled by the treasurer's department in Smith Square.

Attempt to placate inshore fishermen on safety rules

By Our Parliamentary Staff

The Department of Trade is considering an instalment payment system for inshore fishermen who complain that the cost of safety surveys is too high.

Mr Clinton Davis, Under-Secretary of State for Trade, who is responsible for the new safety regulations, which have brought complaints from owners of smaller boats around the United Kingdom, announced that when a Commons committee considered and approved orders relating to the regulations yesterday.

Conservative MPs said the Government's approach was as bureaucratic. Mr Patrick Wahl (Hampshire) said they had considered expressing their misgivings in a vote, but had decided that it would be wrong to vote against safety regulations.

Mr Alick Buchanan-Smith (Angus, North and Mearns) said fishermen could not understand why an insurance sur-

vey, which would be cheaper, was not regarded as sufficient for smaller vessels.

The minister said he was anxious that no fisherman or vessel should be prevented from fishing unless it was obvious that the risk run was unwarranted. "I do not believe it is right that a palpably unsafe vessel should put to sea. I do not know whether some MPs believe that is an appalling incursion of bureaucracy, but that is the stand I take."

He said he had invited representatives of the fishing industry to see him next week, to discuss their difficulties. He would then decide whether any modifications in the arrangements should be considered.

It is understood that the meeting, with representatives from various inshore fishermen's organizations, will probably be held in London next Wednesday, to be followed later by a meeting between Mr Davis and his 17 fishing vessel surveyors.

Historic art rooms to open for jubilee

By Philip Howard

The Fine Rooms on the second floor of Somerset House are about to be reopened to the public after a lapse of a century and a half, having been lovingly and handsomely restored to Chambers's original design by the Department of the Environment.

The Fine Rooms on the first floor including the Royal Academy's Antique Academy and Assembly Room, were restored and reopened in 1974, and first used for the Churchill centenary exhibition. The rooms on the second floor include the Great Room, where the academy held its exhibitions, an ante-room, and a room for the School of Painting.

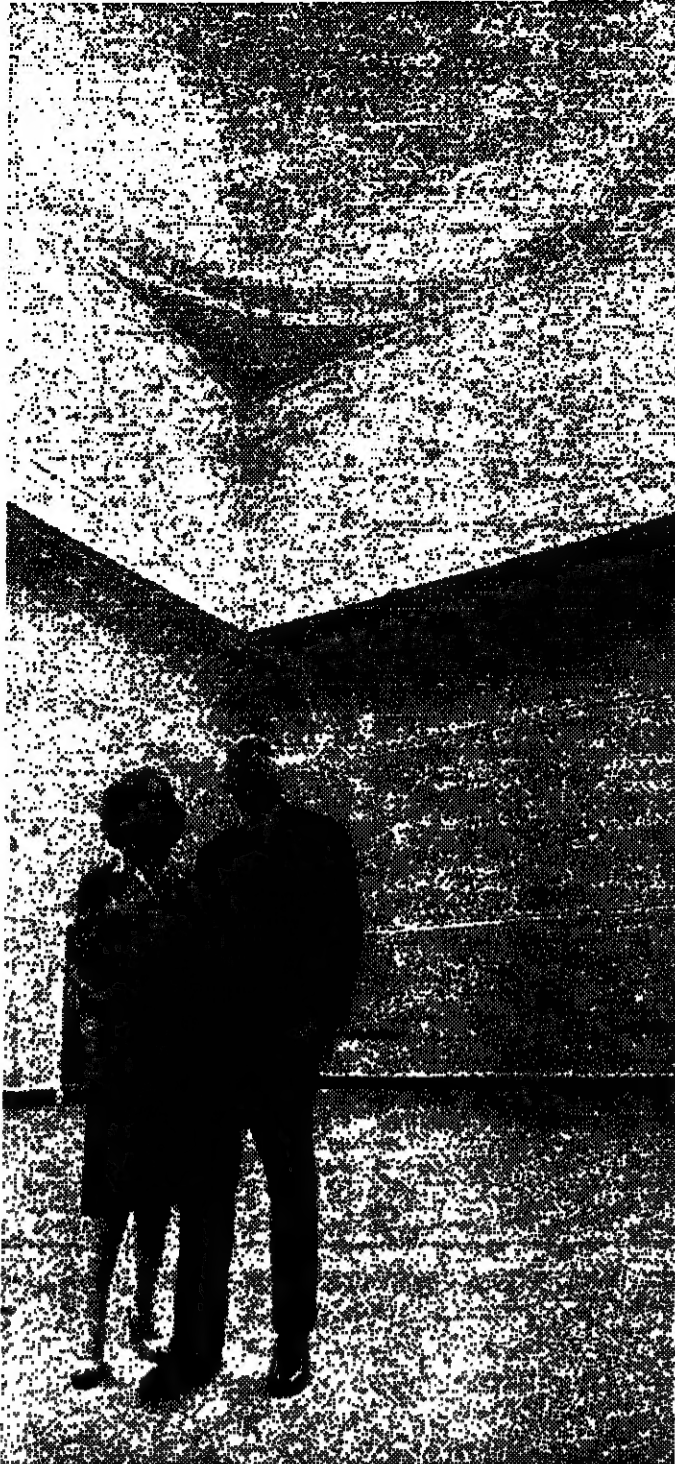
The Great Room, familiar from paintings, is in the centre of the second floor of the Strand range, higher than the other rooms, with four large semicircular windows high up and a ceiling painted like a blue sky with clouds.

For the first time since 1836, the rooms will be reopened and reborn with paintings in July for the silver jubilee exhibition, "London and the Thames", mounted by the National Maritime Museum on behalf of the Department of the Environment.

The Strand Block of Somerset House, completed by 1780, was arranged to house the Royal Academy, the Royal Society, and the Society of Antiquaries. Care was taken over the design both externally and internally.

The external sculpture was designed by G. B. Cipriani. Sir William Chambers himself designed the internal plasterwork, which was executed by Collins, John Papworth, and Thomas Clarke. The carving was done by Richard Lawrence and Sefton Allen.

During the restoration Mr Harold Vexley, senior architect with the Department of the Environment's historic buildings and monuments division, and his colleagues rediscovered a forgotten, pretty little basement at the foot of the western circular staircase. The Royal Academy had roofed it over to provide a stand for a vast statue. Chambers called it the Doric Vestibule. It is a sort of dolls' house on which he played variations on the theme of the Strand front of his building, an old provides delightful



Sir John Betjeman, the poet Laureate, and Lady Birk, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for the Environment, looking at the restored Great Room at Somerset House.

Bus subsidies to small private firms opposed

From Our Correspondent, Oxford

Oxfordshire County Council, which uses its bus subsidies to back small private firms rather than a National Bus Company subsidiary, has had that policy rejected by the traffic commissioners.

The commissioners question whether the council is properly fulfilling its job of co-ordinating local transport. They decided to accept all the proposals for the reorganization of services run by the Oxford South Midlands Bus Company and to reject those submitted by private firms.

The commissioners say in a report that the council's policy of extended school contracts, under which it offers subsidies to operators as an incentive to run school services cheaply in rural areas, has led to potential subsidies of up to £234,000 for private operators.

Both management and union in these large nationalized bus operating companies, and indeed the Government itself, would do well to ponder the implications of the massive public support of small private operators in rural areas which has been revealed in the course of this inquiry," the report says.

The commissioners say the school contracts cause subsidies intended for main bus routes to be spent on providing school buses, a charge that should be part of the education budget. They suggest that the practice might have Oxfordshire without an increased bus network, but with a host of uneconomic services, particularly all to the hands of different operators.

"The objective of the existing legislation would have been defeated and the county would have returned to a concept of passenger transport by road considered to have been obsolete since 1939."

The long-term planning of bus routes that basic would be impossible and it was therefore understandable that the public company felt unable to accept subsidy on the basis of extended school contracts, the report adds.

"The drastic changes of transport policy adopted by Oxfordshire County Council in 1974 and 1976 appear to have been carried through with little or no regard for the impact of these policies on the operation of the county."

Brigadier Roger Stansfield, chairman of the county council bus subsidies working party until last week, said yesterday: "I should be surprised if there is any change in the county's policy."

"There is no reluctance to pay subsidies to any operator who does not demand them as bulk subsidies. I think that in this case the law is an ass."

Store's 'five-shilling' lunch attracts 300 customers

By Penny Symon

In the midst of the profiteering and speculation connected with the Queen's silver jubilee and its exploitation by the souvenir industry, an event at Guildford, Surrey, yesterday stood out like a ray of sunshine.

Three hundred people sat down to a three-course lunch in the restaurant of the Army and Navy Stores and it cost them only 25p each.

The store decided on the "five-shilling" lunch as a jubilee gesture, rather than to make a profit. An advertisement was placed in a local newspaper inviting people to look back 25 years and consume soup or fruit juice, roast beef and two vegetables, roll and butter, apple tart and cream and coffee for the special price.

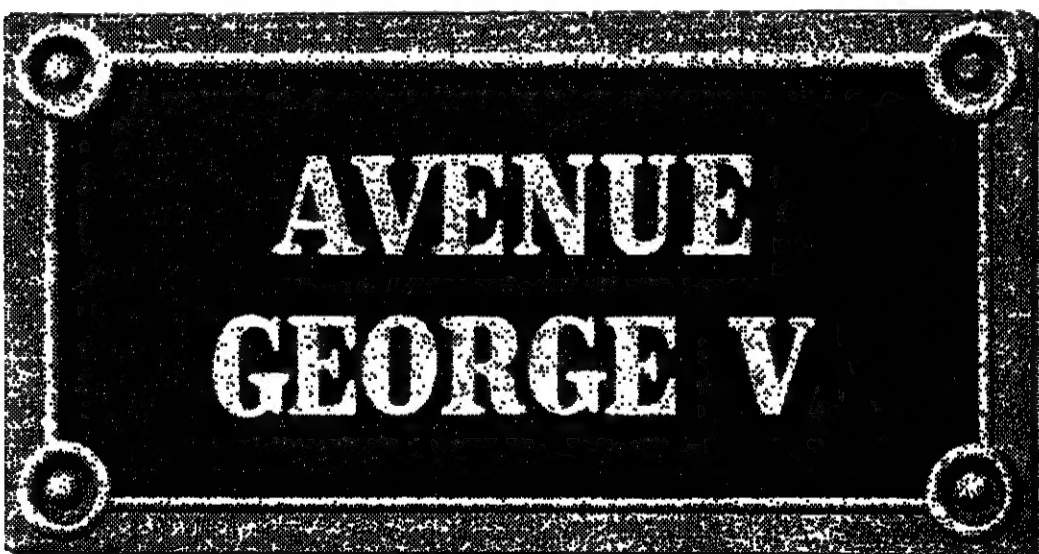
The restaurant was fully booked by 9.30 on the morning the advertisement appeared.

Yesterday with the restaurant decorated with jubilee flags and the sound of military music echoing round the walls, the customers, accompanied in three shifts, thanked their way happily through a meal that would normally cost between £1.50 and £1.75.

Three elderly women said the special price had made it possible for them to go to lunch. One said that they hoped their children would remember the nostalgic trip into the past. One customer, Mrs Emily Headorn, aged 84, was treated to lunch by the restaurant staff.

Mr Robin Lee, the store's general manager, said he had subsidised the restaurant with £250 to cover the loss. "But it is fun for our customers, and something that I would like to be able to do much more often," he said.

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BANCO DO BRASIL

Private water companies and regional authorities are fighting for survival

By John Young, Planning Reporter

Members of the Commons select committee on the nationalised industries begin a three-day visit to the North of England next Monday to examine the operation of the British Waterways Board.

The visit comes only about a month before the expected publication of a White Paper on the further reorganisation of the water industry, which is likely to recommend that the board should be merged in a new national water authority.

Responsibility for the future of the waterways, however, is only one of several controversial issues. Since publication of the Government's consultative document in March last year, dispute has been expressed in several quarters at the proposal for a strong central body to assume some of the powers of regional authorities, and the projected takeover of the remaining 28 private water companies.

One important but less provocative suggestion in the consultative document, namely the equalisation of water charges over the country as a whole, has already been rejected in a legislative form in a Bill now before the House of Lords. But, although the Government has allowed greater time for debate on the rest of the document, it does not appear to have had any second thoughts.

The need for a central body to coordinate planning and investment and to increase water supplies on a national basis was strongly urged during last summer's drought. Now that the threat of shortages has for the time being disappeared, the regional authorities are in a better position to fight for their continued autonomy.

Needless to say, the private companies, which still supply 19 per cent of the total area of England and Wales with a population of 12,500,000 are fighting for survival. They point out that as they are statutory undertakers, their financial returns are strictly controlled, and that their efficiency is widely acknowledged. They argue that nationalisation would increase the burden on public expenditure and damage the interests of consumers.

Much may depend upon the attitude of Liberal MP, Mr Michael McNair-Wilson, Conservative MP for Newbury, who has taken up the companies' case in the Commons, is confident that the Liberals will not support any form of nationalisation.

The Government continues to insist that the companies' continued existence is an anachronism. In the consultative document it was said that the Labour Party maintained that the present arrangement was wrong in principle and anomalous in practice.

Fragmentation of responsibility is also the main reason why the Government favours some reorganisation of the waterways administration. At present the waterways board is responsible for about two thousand miles, of which about half are navigable; a further 500 miles of navigable rivers, including the non-tidal Thames, are controlled by regional water authorities; and another 500 miles come under a variety of bodies, including local authorities and charitable trusts.

The Government believes there is a strong case for bringing all of them under a new navigational authority which would issue single licences to operators and draw up standardised charges. Since many of the canals and rivers also form an integral part of the water supply, it would be in everyone's interest to combine responsibility for both functions.

Waterway enthusiasts disagree. They fear that amateur considerations would be pushed into the background and that the board's independence would remove any last hope of reviving the commercial use of the waterways.

The digestive biscuit faces a new threat to its name

By Hugh Clayton

Britain's biscuit makers, who were unscathed by EEC Commission attacks on such traditional names as "cream cracker" face a home-produced threat to their nomenclature. A government-appointed group of scientists, the Food Standards Committee, is to study the term "digestive biscuit", which has been used since the reign of Queen Victoria. The committee is to decide whether the term should be banned on the ground that it implies that the biscuit eats itself.

A call by the standards committee for a ban was rejected by ministers in 1966. Its report, Claims and Misleading Des-

criptions, said then that "the word 'digestive' denotes self-digestibility".

Professor Alan Ward, chairman of the committee, then and now, said yesterday that the question was being examined again under a review of food labels.

Lord Monistone, a director of the Cake & Biscuit Alliance, said: "Digestive came up as one of many names for a type of biscuit in the last century. It is a very good name. Although the biscuit does not improve digestion, it does slip down easily if you have weak teeth."

Leading article, page 19

Satellites may aid sea pollution study

By John Chatterton

A research team at Lancaster University is developing techniques that may enable pollution in the North Sea to be monitored by using photographs taken from satellites.

The study is aimed at developing ways of identifying oil and other surface and coastal pollution to replace the present costly and slow methods of taking measurements from ships.

During their researches the scientists will monitor surface pollution over large areas of the North Sea and Irish Sea.

The programme, which is supported by a £27,000 grant from the Department of Industry, is being carried out by Dr Gilbert Fielder, reader in the lunar and planetary unit of the department of environmental sciences, and by Dr Duncan Teffer, research associate.

Dr Fielder said yesterday: "Oil pollution of the sea around our shores is increasing. The huge slick caused by the Bravo blowers has brought the question of serious pollution to our attention once again. The object of our research is to find a quick and efficient method of scanning large areas of the sea's surface so that pollution can be identified and dealt with."

The study will develop techniques to analyse infrared satellite pictures so that small variations in temperature on the sea's surface can be identified and estimated.

Dentist 'rolled on floor' with girl of 16

A dentist told a girl of 16, a former patient of his, for long black boots and asked her to tell him she was boss. The disciplinary Committee of the General Dental Council was told yesterday.

Det Sergeant David Crosby said Mr Ivor Rosenberg, the dentist, also rolled around on the floor with the girl, whom he had invited to train as his nurse. They hand-wrestled to prove that she had the strength to handle patients coming out of anaesthetics, he said.

Sergeant Crosby told the committee that Mr Rosenberg invited the girl to spend the weekend at Blackpool.

Mr Paul Honigsmann, for the committee, said that after the incident Mr Rosenberg drove the girl home and gave her £5. He asked her not to say anything to anyone, but she told a friend's mother and the police were informed.

Mr Adrian Whitfield, for Mr Rosenberg, produced a petition signed by 500 patients, and said the incident had been out of character.

Mr Rosenberg, of Castle Hill Road, Prestwich, Greater Manchester, told the committee that his activities with the girl were horseplay.

WEST EUROPE

Communists' attempt to put a price tag on cost of left's programme is boon to Government

From Charles Hargrove

The Communists' Party's attempt to put a price tag on the cost of the implementation of the left's common programme published over a whole page in the party newspaper, *l'Unité*, yesterday, is a political move which has a serious impact on the Government.

It is not by accident that they placed this bomb into the political arena on the eve of the much publicized television debate between M. Barre, the Prime Minister, and M. Cressat, the Communist Party's spokesman, which has had a shattering effect on the political scene.

As on that previous occasion, the Communists are trying to make a little too obviously, and that they are being left in the lurch by the Government's failure to restore the balance between themselves and the Socialists.

The manoeuvre is so insidious that it is almost impossible to detect in its full impact. They have jumped to the conclusion that the days of the Union of the Left are numbered and that the Communist Party's division will come to the fore as a sorely pressed Government majority.

This is hardly likely, for the whole strategy of the Communists in recent months has

been to put their heads down and avoid anything which might prejudice the chances of the left coming to power.

What hurts the Socialists just as surely damages them, unless they feel that the wind of change is blowing so strongly in favour of the left at present that they can afford to risk their own position and ensure that they are more favourably placed when the parliamentary elections come.

In fact the Communists have tried to kill two birds with one stone: to improve their standing in the eyes of left-wing voters as the more efficient defenders of their interests; and to impress public opinion with the fact that they are not so far from the Government as they seem in the light of the figures—their share of responsibility for the left's policy is a charge frequently levelled against them in the past that they always make promises without counting the cost.

Now they propose to show that the Socialists and other groups are not so much the beneficiaries of the left's policy as they are the victims of it. They are perfectly aware that in financial terms, though of course at the price of giving France a Marxist-type economic structure, and unleashing formidable inflationary pressures.

It will be child's play for M. Barre to demolish this exercise of the Communists' imagination. The Communist Party's division will come to the fore as a sorely pressed Government majority.

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This is hardly likely, for the whole strategy of the Communists in recent months has

Vance talks in Madrid to focus on Nato

From William Chislett

Madrid, May 11

Mr Cyrus Vance, the United States Secretary of State, who arrived in Madrid this evening to preside over the first meeting of the Spanish-American committee set up after the treaty of friendship and cooperation was signed last year between the two countries.

He will inform the Spanish Government of what was discussed at the Nato summit meeting in London this week. The United States wishes to strengthen the Nato organization and Mr Vance's visit to Madrid is seen in this context.

The United States is very interested, for strategic reasons, in Spain eventually joining Nato. But Spain will not make any application to join either Nato or the European Community until some time after the general elections in June.

The extreme left-wing organization, FRAP (Anti-Fascist Revolutionary Party), claimed responsibility today for the murder of an industrialist who died in Monday when a bomb strapped to his chest exploded. This was the first act of violence for which FRAP has claimed responsibility for some time; and it caused speculation that extremists might try to disrupt the elections.

More than a thousand Falangists attended the funeral today in Toledo for the victim of another political killing who died on Monday night, of stab wounds.

Brussels rejects changes in fishing policy and takes Ireland to court over ban

From Michael Hornsby

Brussels, May 11

Britain's hopes of getting the EEC to approve wide coastal belts reserved exclusively for local fishermen were dealt a new blow here today when the European Commission decided against any significant modification of the proposals for revision of the common fisheries policy first unveiled last autumn.

These proposals, rejected at the time as "wholly unacceptable" by the British Government, would restrict exclusive fishing rights to a 12-mile band round the coastlines of member states.

The Irish restrictions were imposed last month and ban all vessels of more than 110 ft and

said they want exclusive zones up to 50 miles wide.

In a related move, Mr Roy Jenkins, President of the Commission, and his 12 colleagues also decided to take the Irish Government to the European Court of Justice for refusing to lift unilaterally imposed fishing restrictions.

The court will also be asked to grant an interim injunction requiring Ireland to remove the restrictions forthwith pending a final judgement. Irish sources indicated, however, that Dublin would challenge the justification for such a request before the court.

The Irish restrictions were imposed last month and ban all vessels of more than 110 ft and

1,100 brake horsepower from fishing within a coastal band extending in places as far as 100 miles. Ireland itself only has two boats big enough to be covered by the ban.

Mr Finn Olav Gundelach, the Commissioner responsible for fisheries, made clear at today's weekly meeting of the Commission that he saw no reason to change the original proposals for revising the common fisheries policy.

Instead, EEC agriculture ministers, who meet in Brussels next Monday and Tuesday, will be asked to initiate an urgent reconsideration of the proposals, which ran into such stiff opposition last autumn that they were shelved.

Britain and Ireland are the countries pressing most strongly for the revision of the policy, since about 80 per cent of Community fish stocks lie in their waters. They say they can no longer accept the principle of unrestricted access for all EEC fishermen.

Our Glasgow Correspondent writes: A hundred Scottish fishermen, MPs, from Scottish fishing constituencies, and local authority representatives will fly to Brussels on Monday to protest to the EEC farm and fisheries ministers against the proposed 12-mile limit, which they said could destroy the Scottish inshore fishing industry, endangering 80,000 jobs.

Commission move to outlaw British pig subsidies

From Our Own Correspondent

Brussels, May 11

The European Commission today stepped up its pressure on the British Government to abolish the payment of national subsidies to pig farmers.

At its regular weekly meeting, the Commission decided to ask the European Court of Justice in Luxembourg for an immediate interim injunction outlawing the subsidies.

The latest move in the long-running legal battle over the subsidies comes after a recent decision by the British Government to counter-attack the Commission. Britain asked the Luxembourg court to rule against the Commission's original

decision to forbid the payment of national subsidies.

The British argue that their latest move was basically a tactical one designed to leave the Government's options open in fighting the case. But the Commission apparently regards it as a stalling tactic aimed at dragging out the long legal process even further.

The subsidies were introduced to slow down the rapid slaughter rate of British pigs, which the Government maintains was caused by a flood of cheap meat imports. The Commission's view is that the subsidies are illegal because they discriminate against pig producers in other EEC member states.

Milan decides not to send minor offenders to jail

From Our Own Correspondent

Rome, May 11

Dr Mauro Gresti, Milan's chief public prosecutor, has placed full responsibility for solving the problem of overcrowded prisons on the Ministry of Justice after announcing that people found guilty of relatively minor offences will not for the time being be sent to jail.

His initiative is restricted to Milan. It concerns offences with a maximum sentence of four months or less and will remain in force for a month.

Dr Gresti argues that the move was forced on him by an acute shortage of space in Milan's prisons. He said he had tried to find cell space

elsewhere in the country but was only offered 10 places.

His action is controversial. There have been complaints that the ban on imprisonment in Milan means that treatment for minor offences varies geographically and this could be regarded as contravening the constitutional principle of equality.

Dr Gresti's move is the latest development in the country's battle to bring people to justice and to make the punishment law its proper course. Last year, there were 434 escapes from prison, more than one a day, and so far this year the figure of 133 escapes suggests that last year's record will be broken in 1977.

Greece orders farm census to ease entry into EEC

From Mario Modiano

Athens, May 11

The Government has ordered an urgent census of the country's farm population in the hope that it will provide a more accurate picture of Greece's diminishing dependence on agriculture, and ease entry into the European Community.

Those who oppose the enlargement of the EEC argue that the admission of a predominantly agricultural country, such as Greece, would impose heavy financial burdens and institutional strains.

Their argument relies on official Greek statistics. The 1971 census, for instance, gave the figure of 38.2 per cent of the total labour force—nor 35 per cent, the official figure used in our dealings with the Community.

Of course, this is still a far cry from the 15 per cent figure which would be required for Greece to be admitted to the EEC.

Mr Yiannos Bouras, the Minister of Agriculture, who ordered the new census, said that if the count indeed showed a smaller farm population, this would drastically modify the basic facts about Greek agriculture, which EEC experts have found inadequate for an easy harmonization.

the rest were either absent or did other work. The discrepancies were even more striking in mountain villages, mainly because of emigration.

Professor Adam Pepelasis, governor of the state-owned Agricultural Bank which finances Greek farmers, was the first to notice these differences. He asked the 186 branch offices of his bank to check the cards of all registered agricultural farmers. These were found to be inaccurate to the extent of 50 to 75 per cent in many areas.

Mr Pepelasis said: "I estimate that the agricultural labour force in Greece is a far from the 38.2 per cent of the total labour force—nor 35 per cent, the official figure used in our dealings with the Community."

Of course, this is still a far cry from the 15 per cent figure which would be required for Greece to be admitted to the EEC.

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EEC proposal would limit culling of birds

by a Staff Reporter

The indiscriminate killing of an estimated 200 million birds in Italy each year could soon be ended, British MPs were told yesterday. The hunting of migratory species in Italy, a popular pastime, is threatening the survival of some birds. The culling of birds has attracted particular concern among conservationists within the EEC.

A European Commission draft directive, providing general protection for all species of wild bird found in member states, is expected to be approved by the Council of Ministers later this year. Once in force, the directive would place a ban on killing and taking birds and their eggs, and would require member states to take measures to protect them.

A subcommittee of the European Commission on Environment and Nature, which was set up last year, is likely to face a number of problems in implementing the draft directive, though some adjustments would have to be made to the Kingdom's legislation if it is not amended.

Mr Graham Fuller, an assistant secretary of the planning, port and countryside directorate of the Department of the Environment, told the subcommittee that the taking of birds for falconry and airfield clearance was not clearly permitted under the directive.

School fighting Mafia mentality closed by debts

Rome, May 11—Signor

Dante Deici, 25 years a crusader against poverty, ignorance and the Mafia, has decided to shut his revolutionary new school in Sicily because of debts. His organization announced today.

The school, built in the heart of the island's Mafia country with funds raised from supporters around the world, was an attempt to create a generation of children without the traditional Mafia mentality.

Large sums of money promised for the school had not materialized and massive debts had accumulated. The teachers and other staff had not been paid for six months, the newspaper said, but it was hoped that ways would be found to overcome the financial problems.

Signor Deici, aged 53, is in Sweden at the moment, an aide said.

The school, which has attracted the interest of education specialists from many countries, was started about three years ago on a hillside overlooking Palermo, in western Sicily. It has about 100 children and 18 staff.

Lack of money has stopped work on facilities required for Education Ministry recognition. The lack of this official recognition has in turn created a mass of other bureaucratic problems, the aide said.—Reuter.

Herald Tribune or Zurich

Zurich, May 11—The

English-language daily newspaper, *International Herald Tribune*, will be printed in Zurich, as well as in France and London, from the autumn, it is announced today.

A contract has been signed for the publication of between 1,000 and 70,000 copies a day in distribution in Switzerland, Austria, Germany, Austria, Italy and parts of the Balkans, Africa and East Asia. The newspaper is edited in Paris—Agence France-Press.

Free prisoners, Danes say

Copenhagen, May 11—The

Danish Government has signed an appeal by Amnesty International for the immediate release of political prisoners throughout the world. Six political parties also signed the appeal here yesterday.

The appeal will be presented to the United Nations on December 10, the twenty-ninth anniversary of the declaration on human rights.—Reuter.

Bull kills vet

Bologna, May 11—A bull

which went to attack a vet seriously injured a farmer as he was leading a cow to a field near Bologna, was not dead by police.

Children's home given pools with

Madrid, May 11—A Madrid

chemist who won nearly 11m pesetas (£24,000) this week on the pools has given the money to a home for backward children.—Agence France-Press.

OVERSEAS

Churches to pressure British firms after report on black miners

By Desmond Quigley

British companies with investments in South Africa are likely to face increased pressure from church organizations as a result of a report, given exclusively in *The Times* yesterday, on the conditions of blacks working in a South African gold mine.

The report, prepared by the Anglo American Corporation of South Africa, the country's largest mining finance house, drew a vivid picture of the degradation, humiliation, corruption and near insupportable homosexuality suffered by black miners.

Mr Patrick Stuart, executive secretary of Christian Concern for Southern Africa, said yesterday that his organization "will see that this article is drawn to the attention of its sponsoring church bodies, and as a result of the article I think that the churches will increase their pressure on companies with investments in South Africa, particularly in respect to the migrant labour system."

Mr Stuart, who has requested the corporation for a copy of the report, said there was a growing feeling that British companies should be pressured into at least halting all further investment in South Africa. "We find it encouraging that a major company should take the time to find out what their work force thinks and feels, because too often in this country investors are given bland assurances on the position of black workers."

"There are assurances, for

example, that the blacks do not hate the migratory labour system and that they cannot hate it because they come back to the mines year after year, but that picture contrasts strongly with the article in *The Times*."

Reference to the report is made in the annual statement released today—of Mr Harry Oppenheimer, the chairman of Anglo American, who writes: "As a result we have taken a fresh look at all our administrative and induction procedures, and have improved on or dispensed so far as possible with those that are a source of irritation or dissatisfaction."

"One of the encouraging features to emerge from the research was the pride that many black mineworkers take in their work. We are very conscious of the need to respond to this pride, through career advancement and proper representation."

In his statement, Mr Oppenheimer also touches on the political, social and economic problems confronting South Africa.

"We must face the fact," he states, "that the growth of the economy at a rate sufficient to eliminate unemployment and provide rising standards of living for our rapidly growing population will be difficult or even impossible unless we can so order our affairs that investors abroad recover confidence in our social and political stability and are willing to participate on a substantial scale in our economic development."

Business News, page 28

Man in the news: journalist into diplomat
US post for 'cleverest young man'

By Roger Berthoud

Many of Peter Jay's friends must have wondered what fresh fields he might choose to conquer, having reached the upper plateau of newspaper and television journalism (as Economics Editor of *The Times* and presenter of *ITV's Weekend World*) well before his present age of 40.

None of them, least of all Mr Jay himself, would have suspected that he might take over Britain's most important diplomatic post. Yesterday evening, sitting in his study at his desk in a corner of *The Times* Business News, Her Majesty's future Ambassador in Washington still looked slightly surprised by it all.

"It is an awesome and exciting challenge," he said. "My wife and I are now dedicated to doing a good job."

"I know this has been a very personal decision of the Foreign Secretary, and indeed otherwise I would have wondered whether I could or should do it. But I find his confidence and sense of purpose are a marvellous inspiration to anyone who is going to represent Britain abroad."

It is a fact that Mr Jay has known Mr Owen since the latter became an MP in 1966, and that they are good friends. It is also a fact that Mr Jay is as ardent a friend of the United States as he is sceptical about "Europeanism."

"Britain and the United States are the two countries that I really love most in the world," he said yesterday. "And I can think of nothing I would rather do, or be more honoured to be asked to do, than to represent one in the other."

He first visited the United States in 1966 on a Ford Foundation grant, travelling from North to South and East to West. He paid frequent visits there for *The Times* during the next two years, and worked in Washington as an economics editor in exile "from January to December, 1969."

Last summer he sailed his boat there and back for a holiday in Maine. Margaret, his wife, has specialized in American stories as a television journalist, and between them they have many American friends.

It is not paragon to say that Mr Jay is recognized as one of the outstanding figures of his generation. In 1974 *Time* magazine listed 150 future leaders of the world. Among the six named to Britain, he was the youngest, apart from Prince Charles, and the only one not an MP. *The Sunday Times* last year entitled a profile of him "The cleverest young man in Britain."

The record of success has been remorseless: a scholar at and from Winchester; first class honours in Politics, Philosophy and Economics from Christ Church, Oxford, despite being President of the Union six and a half years; a notoriously brilliant if somewhat critical young man in the Treasury; and just 10 years as a highly respected economics editor of *The Times*.

It was predictable that with his combination of good looks and articulateness he would also be a success in television. His presentation of the *Weekend World* programme has amply (too amply, some would say) demonstrated his belief that television should not

trivialize serious issues; while the series of Jay interviews has shown his deep love of philosophy as well as of politics and economics.

Even marriage has conspired to burnish the glittering image. It was perfectly natural that the son of a brilliant if somewhat angular Labour cabinet minister, Mr Douglas Jay, and one of the best of Labour's GLC councillors, Peggy Jay, should marry the daughter of another, less intellectually brilliant cabinet minister, with, however, perhaps the most sensitive political antennae in Britain, Mr James Callaghan.

Margaret Jay, née Callaghan, has remained her forceful and lovely self, acting sometimes with aplomb as hostess at 10 Downing Street receptions; formidable training for the wife of an ambassador.

If Peter Jay has a fault, it has been occasionally to carry self-confidence to the point of arrogance, as he extends his considerable length in an armchair, puts his feet on the coffee table and puffs on one of his cigars. But that tendency is likely to vanish in the consciousness of his daunting new job.

The assets he takes to Washington are indisputable: intellectual brilliance, great charm, a friendly, outward-going nature, a profound grasp of the human mind, a wide range of human experience, and a knowledge of how bureaucracies work, gleaned in those years at the Treasury.

It would be surprising if President Carter, who saw him during his visit to London, as did Mr Vance, the Secretary of State, is not delighted at the appointment.

Nato allies agree to cooperate more closely on defence

By Roger Berthoud and David Spenser

A two-day meeting of the Nato Council, attended by heads of state and government from the 15 member nations, ended yesterday in London with the formal adoption of three proposals put forward on Tuesday by President Carter.

As confirmed in the final communiqué, the Allies will make a fresh attempt to co-operate in all aspects of defence production. The aim is to make better use of available resources and have a more equitable "two-way traffic" of arms sales between Europe and North America, at present in a ratio of one to 10.

Secondly, they will produce a long-term programme to enable Nato forces to meet the needs of the 1980s and try to ensure more effective continuity of defence programmes.

Thirdly, they will make a new study of long-term trends in East-West relations and assess their implications for the Alliance.

President Carter's suggestion for a follow-up summit meeting next spring in Washington found general favour and Mr Joop den Uyl, the Dutch Prime Minister, expressed his government's willingness to postpone its own summit in The Hague.

Thus ended five days of summit meetings in London which had brought the American President into contact with the leaders first of Canada, France, West Germany, Great Britain, Italy and Japan, and then additionally with those of Ireland, Belgium, Holland, Luxembourg, Norway, Portugal, Turkey and Greece. In

many cases this was his first such meeting. Commenting on the Nato meeting in particular, Mr W. Tapley Bennett, the United States permanent representative to the Nato Council, said that he thought it had been a "real success" and very useful for the President and for Mr Vance, the Secretary of State. A spirit of camaraderie had developed very quickly, he thought.

Among the United States partners, Mr Carter was held to have combined forcefulness with a great deal of finesse. The juxtaposition of the "economic" and Nato summits was felt to have emphasized the political nature of the economic and social well-being within the Nato member states.

Another link between the two meetings was provided by the inclusion for the first time—despite some reservations from the French—of a reference in the communiqué to the developing countries.

The main topic of discussion at yesterday's concluding morning session was this summit's East-West conference in Belgrade on the implementation of the 1975 Helsinki agreement on security and co-operation in Europe.

It had been generally agreed, Dr Joseph W. Nye, Secretary-General of Nato, afterwards, that all aspects of the Helsinki agreement should be dealt with in Belgrade with the allies showing a spirit of cooperation and not seeking a confrontation with the Warsaw Pact powers.

With the Western powers setting such a high value on "basket" three—concerned with human rights and freedom of movement—it was not possible simply to forget some parts of the Helsinki agreement.

The communiqué noted only that there had been some improvements in East-West relations in recent years, but "elements of instability and uncertainty persist." The continuing growth in the offensive capabilities of the Warsaw Pact forces was of particular concern.

While detecting "limited progress in certain fields" in the implementation of the Helsinki final act, the Allies emphasized that much remained to be done to realize its full potential both in inter-state relations and in the lives of the citizens in the countries concerned.

On a positive element at the Nato meeting was the "Moderate and statesmanlike" comments of the Greek and Turkish Prime Ministers, as Dr Luns put it, and their evident determination to resolve their differences peacefully.

It is clear that, as ever, the human contacts achieved at the summit were at least as important as the political discussions.

Leading article, page 19

Breaking news gently at Lutyens palace

From Patrick Brogan
Washington, May 11

Her Majesty's Ambassador broke the news gently. Sir Peter Ramsbotham told us that he was delighted with the *Canoe* verdict. It was all very encouraging. He was going to get an honorary law degree from Yale on Monday. Professor Kingman Brewster's last gesture before going to London. Mr Peter Jay of *The Times* had been appointed to succeed him, and he had been made governor of Bermuda.

The British Embassy, not to mention the British press in Washington, is as astonished as they must be in New Printing House Square and other such places.

We sat around the library in the residence, amazed and perplexed, asking the obvious and unanswerable questions. Was Sir Peter pleased? Would Mrs Thatcher keep him on? What did the Americans think about it?

Mr Jay, of course, knows Washington and the residence. He was our Economics Correspondent here for a year. *The Times* does its best but the accommodation here is less than much to be desired. The Lutyens palace is in every way preferable.

It is true that things have changed here in the past few years. Mr Nixon now stars on television, and Secretaries of the Treasury and other high officials of Mr Jay's time have retired to the obscurity of six-figure incomes in industry.

Sir Peter remarked that it was often sensible to change ambassadors with a change in Administration. He refrained from observing that the change might therefore have been made rather earlier.

Sir Peter has devoted himself assiduously to getting acquainted with Mr Carter's ministers and assistants and has had considerable success. The good old boys from Georgia

have proved susceptible to the charms of Sir Peter Ramsbotham and the Lutyens palace.

He said that he was delighted that the younger generation was taking over. Dr Owen is 38, Mr Jay 40. He also said that he expected to enjoy Bermuda greatly. That island was probably the main reason for his departure in the next few years and Sir Peter, whose father saw Ceylon into independence 30 years ago, is looking forward to performing the same function for Bermuda.

Sir Peter came here as Ambassador in 1974, appointed by Mr Heath and confirmed, after a nervous interval, by Mr Wilson. He had to cope with the delicate task of observing the proprieties with a disquieting Administration without compromising his future position with President Ford's team.

The debate over Concorde was another test for diplomacy. It was necessary to nag the Americans without being tiresome, obtaining landing rights without irritating them, and harming more important long-term relations. He succeeded admirably—unlike the French—in balancing the two.

Sir Peter had also to cope with the Queen's visit during the Bicentennial celebrations. Deciding whom to ask to the parties was never more difficult. The Embassy has beautiful gardens, of which Sir Peter took loving care, and one of his triumphs was to get all the roses in bloom together for the Queen.

Mr Jay will have a quieter time. The job of ambassador consists largely of making speeches, explaining Britain's economic condition (emphasising the bright side of things) and our former Economic Secretary's son of a former President of the Board of Trade, and son-in-law of a former Chancellor of the Exchequer, will doubtless enjoy that part of his duties.

Mr Jay's appointment shocks the Commons

Continued from P1

backbenchers on both sides of the House of Commons were shocked by yesterday's announcement. Politically, whatever the merits of the appointment, Mr Callaghan is considered to have made the mistake of imitating the appointments and honours which Sir Harold Wilson conferred on his associates.

The Prime Minister had been considered aloof from nepotism and personal appointments, and had gained a reputation for parliamentary command in consequence.

Some MPs think that Mr Jay's appointment will damage Mr Callaghan's reputation, and that Prime Minister's question time in the Commons today will

be a parliamentary occasion not to be missed.

Mr Jay apparently had a successful introduction to President Carter at the Lancaster House reception on Saturday for the leaders of the Western industrial world. Mr Callaghan naturally invited his daughter, who was accompanied by her husband. President Carter said that he would like to meet the girl, and the report was instant.

According to the Foreign Office, the basic salary of the British Ambassador to Washington is £18,675, although the total value of the post, including expenses and perquisites, is over £40,000. In Fleet Street it was assumed that Mr Jay had improved notably upon his joint earnings from newspaper and television journalism.

Refugees say new squads will hunt Amin enemies

From Our Correspondent
Nairobi, May 11

Refugees arriving here from Uganda say killings there of members of the Acholi and Langi tribes, who have been blamed for supporting the recent plot to overthrow President Amin, are being intensified.

According to one group, 56 soldiers at the Uganda Army headquarters in Kampala were killed after being asked to explain why their fellow tribesmen were leaving Uganda in large numbers.

Specially recruited "elimination squads" were undergoing special training at four centres in Uganda, the refugees said. They are not part of the reg-

ular Army and are kept apart from it. All are said to be members of President Amin's own Kakwa tribe, but many of them have been recruited from adjoining areas of Zaire and Sudan.

The refugees said there was a plan for a "final solution" of the opposition to President Amin by eliminating all influential and educated Acholi and Langi. Several thousand members of these tribes have already fled to Kenya, Sudan and Zaire.

They include doctors, teachers and other professionals. The new "elimination squads" were intended to force these more educated refugees said.

Text of Atlantic summit communiqué

The following final communiqué was issued in London yesterday at the end of the North Atlantic Council meeting:

1. The North Atlantic Council met in London on May 10 and 11, 1977, with the participation of heads of state and government.

2. The essential purpose of the Alliance is to safeguard the independence and security of its members, enabling them to promote the values of democracy and respect for human rights, individual freedom, justice and social progress, and to make possible the creation of a lasting structure of peace. The Allies are firmly resolved to maintain and enhance the effectiveness of the Alliance and the close unity which binds them.

3. Although there have been some improvements in East-West relations in recent years, the Allies are determined to achieve the most effective use of available resources and to preserve and promote the strong elements of stability and security which are essential for the defence of the Alliance and to develop a more balanced relationship between European and North American members of the Alliance in the procurement of defence equipment. The means of deepening this cooperation should be reviewed in appropriate form.

4. The Allies are determined to cooperate closely in all aspects of defence production. Their aim is to achieve the most effective use of available resources and to preserve and promote the strong elements of stability and security which are essential for the defence of the Alliance and to develop a more balanced relationship between European and North American members of the Alliance in the procurement of defence equipment. The means of deepening this cooperation should be reviewed in appropriate form.

5. Leaders of states taking part in the integrated defence structure of the Alliance requested their defence ministers to initiate and develop a long-term programme to enable Nato forces to meet the changing defence needs of the 1980s and to review the manner in which the Alliance implements its defence programmes to ensure more effective follow-through.

6. At the same time, the Allies reaffirm their conviction that security in Europe and in the

world, without which détente could not produce its beneficial effects, cannot be achieved by statements of intent, but requires concrete efforts to reduce the level of armaments through realistic measures of disarmament and arms control. They will continue to move towards this end in a manner consistent with Allied security, while recognizing that progress also depends on a constructive attitude on the part of the Soviet Union and East European states.

7. The Allies warmly welcome the efforts of the Soviet Union to negotiate with the Soviet Union an agreement to limit and reduce strategic arms which takes into account Allied interests.

8. With respect to MBFR, the participating Allies emphasize the importance they attach to these negotiations, the goal of which is to contribute to a more stable relationship and to the strengthening of peace and security in Europe. They call for a positive response to the additional offer they made to the Warsaw Pact countries in December 1975, and reaffirm their overall objective of establishing approximate parity in ground forces in the form of a common collective ceiling, for ground force manpower and the reduction of the disparity in tanks, which would ensure undiminished security at a lower level of forces.

9. The collective security ensured by the Alliance, in addition to enhancing global stability, provides the strength and confidence that enable the member countries to persevere in their efforts to lessen the tensions between East and West and to increase progressively the areas of cooperation. In this connection, the Allies leaders requested the Council in Permanent Session to make a fresh study of long-term trends in East-West relations and to assess their implications for the Alliance.

Improvement in East-West relations will depend on the extent to which all concerned show moderation and self-restraint both in Europe and in other parts of the world. With regard to Berlin and Germany as a whole, the other Allies fully associated themselves with the views expressed by the heads of state and government of the United States, the United Kingdom, France and the Federal Republic of Germany in their statement of 9th May, 1977, and noted in particular that the

strict observance and full implementation of the quadripartite agreement of 3rd September, 1971, are essential to the strengthening of détente, the maintenance of security and the development of cooperation throughout Europe.

10. The Allies stress the great importance they attach to the implementation by the CSCE of its treaty provisions of the Helsinki Final Act. There has been limited progress in certain fields. While welcoming this, the Allies emphasize that much still remains to be done if the potential of the Final Act is to be realized both in terms of inter-state relations and in the lives of the inhabitants of all the countries concerned.

11. The Allies recognize as "worthy" the aspirations of people throughout the world to human rights and fundamental freedoms. They are convinced that respect for these rights and freedoms, in accordance with the commitments accepted by governments in the Charter of the United Nations and in other international documents including the Helsinki Final Act, is essential for peace, stability and cooperation among nations.

12. The Allied leaders reaffirm their support for an equitable world system in which all countries, developing as well as developed, will see their best interests served and which can sustain the economic progress of all. They intend to mobilize their efforts towards the attainment of that objective, in the appropriate fora. They invite the Warsaw Pact countries to do the same.

13. Recognizing the vitality and vigour shown by the Alliance over the years, the Allied leaders reaffirm their determination to maintain and strengthen their close association and cohesion within the framework of the North Atlantic Treaty. Go that first foundation they will persevere in the task of building a more just and peaceful world.

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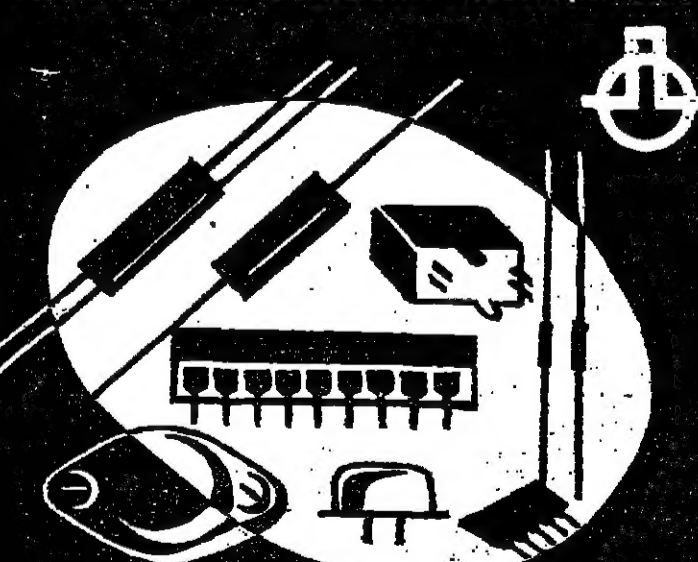
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	GF008	1000					2145		0820
	GF020	2030		2200				0735	2235
WED	GF012	1000				1845	2140		0825
THURS	GF244	1910	2115				0525		0830
	GF022	1535		2135	0545			0850	
	GF016	1000			1835				2215
FRI	GF024	1835		2135		0655	0850		
	GF248	2015	2220				0750		0925
	GF006	1000				1845		2145	2235
SAT	GF128	2045			0510		0805		1000
	GF014	1000				1845		2145	
SUN	GF026	1835		2035			0815		0910
	GF126	2045			0510			0800	0945

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OVERSEAS

Thai Army finds it can contain insurgents without American help

From Peter Hain, Bangkok, May 11

After living alongside its communist neighbours in Indochina for the past two years, Thailand is no longer obsessed with the "domino" theory. This mood of confidence has come with the discovery that the country's problem of insurgency is no worse, or better, than it was two years ago.

The Thai Army estimates that some 8,000 guerrillas, members of the Communist Party of Thailand, are operating in the north and mountains in the north, near the border of Laos, in an confined southern regions above the border of Malaysia.

Although it is believed that as many as 1,000 rebels have been trained in Laos and equipped with automatic rifles, mortars and a few rocket-propelled grenades, the Communist Party has made no significant advances since the fall of Saigon and Phnom Penh two years ago.

The party has split into four main groups and their operations are confined to isolated tracks on police stations, government offices and other targets in more remote mountain areas.

At present an estimated 2,000 rebels, who are trying to win over isolated hill people in the border provinces below the border of Laos, have been confined in the region. In recent months the rebels have made a number of hit and run attacks on road building operations in an apparent attempt to hamper the plans of laying down counter-attacks in the inaccessible mountains.

The biggest group, an estimated 3,500 men, are operating in the north-east provinces, west of Laos and the Mekong river. Western diplomats believe that the rebels in this area are capable of acquiring equipment from both Laos and Cambodia in the south.

Another group of 400 rebels are entrenched in secret camps in the centre of Thailand and



Estimated insurgent strengths operating from remote base camps.

another 2,000, armed with complete rifles and home-made mines, are operating about 150 miles north of the border of Malaysia. Although the guerrillas have not been able to capture areas of the populated districts of Thailand, their presence in the remote jungles has certainly strained the country's economy.

More than 20,000 regular troops, 15 per cent of the entire strength of the Thai Army, are employed on anti-guerrilla operations.

The scale of the operations on both sides is relatively low compared with former battles in Vietnam and Cambodia. In spite of rumours that suggest rocket installations have been sighted near the border of Laos, it would appear as though the Thai guerrillas have not yet acquired heavy weapons.

One Western diplomat summed up the situation: "The problem is no better or worse than it was in the past, but the morale of the Thai Army has been given a boost. The Americans are no longer here and the Thai have discovered that they can contain the situation themselves. The ghost of the 'domino' theory appears to be fading."

Minister insulted by women in Pakistan

From Richard Wigg, Lahore, May 11

Mr Yehya Bakhtiar, Attorney General in Mr Bhutto's Government, was spat at and insulted by pro-opposition barristers and women today when he appeared outside the Punjab High Court, where he defended the Pakistan Government's use of the Army to uphold law and order.

The High Court is hearing a petition brought by a veteran opponent of the Prime Minister, challenging the constitutionality of martial law, now imposed on the capital of the volatile Punjab province.

The women outside the court, led by Begum Afifa Memon, Secretary-General of the women's section of the opposition Pakistan National Alliance had turned out for the first time to take the lead in defying martial law provisions against any public assembly during Lahore's early morning break in the curfew.

Inside the court, the Attorney General immediately demanded a suspension of the hearings after lodging his complaint, and this led to acrimonious exchanges between him and lawyers representing the petitioner.

The bench of five judges, led by Mr Aslam Raza Hussain, the Chief Justice, struggled to maintain what they called "the decorum" of the court, while counsel, who are virtually all opposition political leaders, exchanged insults with Mr Bhutto's minister.

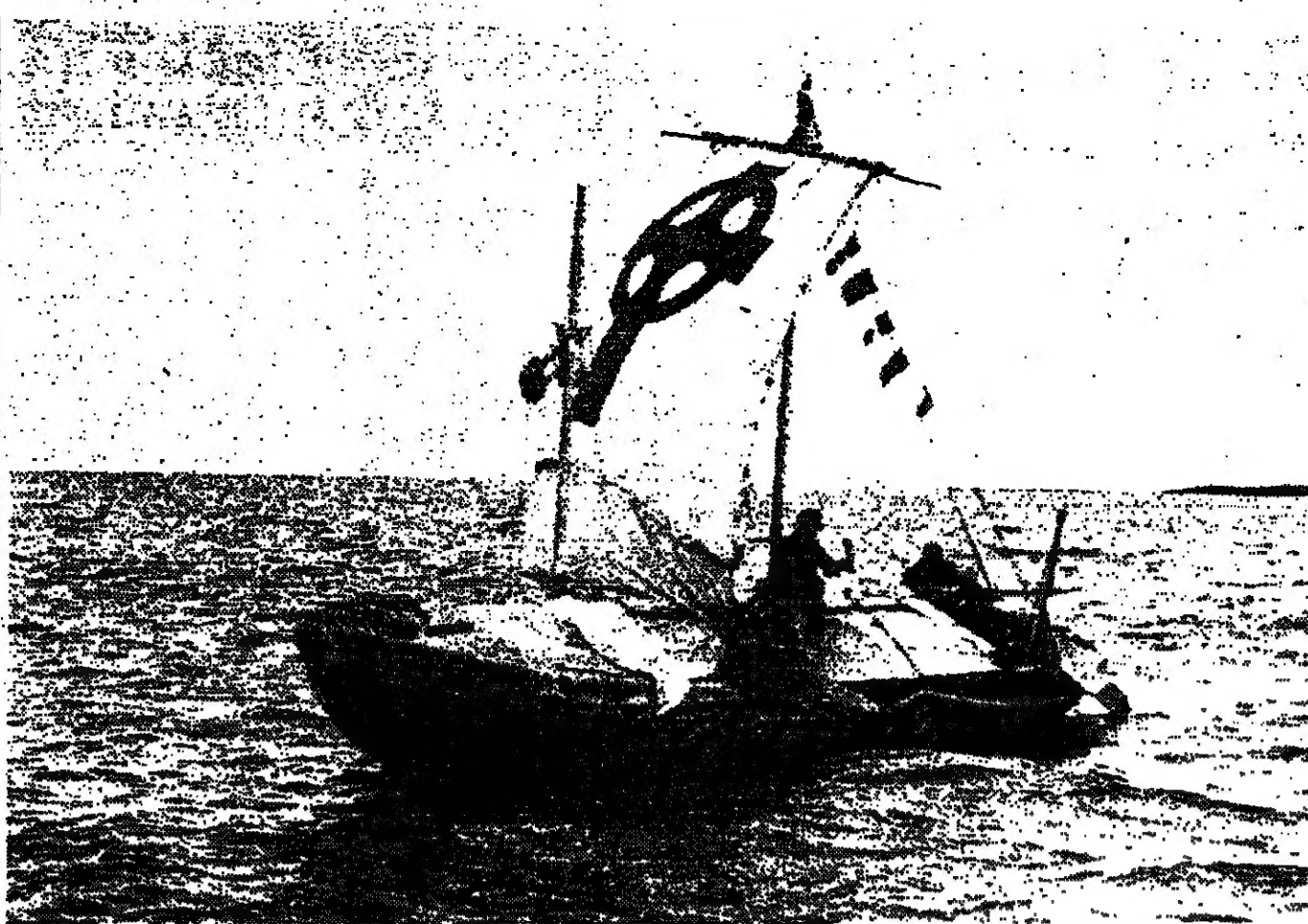
After the scene outside the court the women marched for more than an hour through an area of the city and to the Lahore Gate, now the rendezvous point since Friday's killing by troops of three opposition demonstrators. "Down with murderer Bhutto" and "Generals save the nation from the killer Bhutto" they yelled on the way.

Like yesterday, the Army was almost completely absent, law and order duties having been taken over by the police.

Islamabad, May 11.—The National Assembly has passed a bill banning intoxicating liquor.

The bill provides for penalties of up to two years in prison and fines of up to £500. It applies only to Muslims and not to foreign diplomats in Pakistan.

Mr Bhutto, the Prime Minister, announced last month that the Government would prohibit liquor, gambling and nightclubs to bring an Islamic order to Pakistan. The gambling law is to be introduced soon.



Voyage resumes: The leather boat Brendan, defeated by bad weather last autumn during its voyage from Ireland to North America, has resumed its journey where it left off, in Reykjavik.

Its crew of four adventurers from Britain and Ireland, led by Mr Timothy Severin, aged 36, an English author who lives in Cork, are seeking to prove that Irish monks could have discovered America by this route nearly 1,000 years before Columbus.

The 36ft boat covered with 42 ox hides and having a framework of oak and ash, is photographed off south-west Iceland on its way to Newfoundland. Its final destination is Boston.

54 killed in crash of Israeli Air Force helicopter

From Moshe Brilliant, Tel Aviv, May 11

An Israeli Air Force CH53 helicopter on a night training exercise yesterday crashed, caught fire and exploded near Jericho, killing 10 airmen and 44 paratroopers on board.

The disaster occurred five miles from the border and may have been witnessed from Jordanian military outposts. But Lieutenant-General Mordechai Gur, the Israeli Chief of Staff, ruled out suggestions of hostile action.

He told a press conference that a special committee is inquiring into the cause. In terms of casualties, it was the biggest peacetime military tragedy since January 26, 1968, when the Dakar, a submarine newly acquired from Britain, was lost on its voyage from Portsmouth to Haifa with 69 men on board.

Last night's incident was the worst Air Force peacetime disaster since the birth of Israel.

It occurred at 8.40 pm yesterday but the news was censored for 20 hours until the last of the bereaved families was traced and notified, in accordance with standard Israel Defence Forces policy.

The disaster plunged the country into mourning. With six days to go for the parliamentary elections, all the parties cancelled campaign meetings, broadcasts and advertising.

The pilot was identified as a student of the Israel Institute of Technology, aged 26, who completed his regular military service a year ago and was on reserve duty.

The general said the take off was "normal and natural" and the pilot, who was in communication with the control tower, reported no difficulties.

Reporters at the scene of the accident this morning saw wreckage spread over a radius of 200 yards.

The accident occurred during an annual exercise in transporting a paratroop formation by helicopter. The ill-fated CH53 was the last of a large number of aircraft to take off in pairs.

Weapons and live ammunition were among the wreckage.

Libyan defector speaks of executions without trial

From Robert Fisk, Cairo, May 11

Egypt has been presented with an unexpected propaganda coup against Colonel Gaddafi's regime in Libya by the defection of a young Libyan Air Force cadet who flew his French-built training aircraft across the desert border and gave himself up.

The official Middle East News Agency in Cairo poured out a long report on the pilot this morning, recording in considerable detail his denunciation of "a regime based on terror, execution, detention and the appropriation of the people's wealth."

Cadet Rabome Said al-Astar, a tall, strikingly handsome man with a broad smile, appeared on Egyptian television tonight standing next to the single-engine Rallye 180 aircraft in which he flew to Egypt and glancing rather nervously to left and right as the cameras focused on him.

According to the cadet, Colonel Gaddafi has been executing Libyans and Egyptians

without trial on suspicion of subversion. He named three Libyan Army officers who had, he said, been executed on the personal orders of the colonel: Captain Muhammad Man-koush; Lieutenant Ahmed Diab; and Lieutenant Farag Muhammad. He said there had been demonstrations against the Libyan leader in Tripoli and Benghazi.

There was one intriguing moment, however, when Cadet al-Astar said he wanted to join the Libyan opposition movement in Cairo, headed by Major Omar Meheishi, a former member of the Libyan Revolutionary Command Council, who defected to Egypt two years ago.

The Egyptians have never made any secret of Major Meheishi's presence. Indeed, he was the subject of a kidnapping attempt last year. The reemergence with so much publicity of his role as an opposition leader, however, suggests that Egypt may still consider him the catalyst for a revolt against Colonel Gaddafi inside Libya.

Owen plan gets guarded welcome in Salisbury

From Michael Knipe, Salisbury, May 11

The announcement by Dr Owen, the Foreign Secretary, at Westminster today that an Anglo-American consultative group would go to Africa soon for talks with all parties in the Rhodesia conflict was welcomed by Government sources in Salisbury.

However, concern has been expressed over the possibility of British and American consultative teams setting up bases in either Lusaka or Dar es Salaam. The feeling here is that this would be giving too much attention to the Patriotic Front, led by Mr Joshua Nkomo and Mr Robert Mugabe, at the expense of the rival nationalist faction led by Bishop Abel Muzorewa, and other formal African groups.

There is concern also that the American role in the settlement negotiations may be reduced because of the apparent opposition of the Patriotic Front.

There was no immediate official response to Dr Owen's announcement but Mr David Smith, the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, expressed a degree of optimism over the settlement initiative during a speech for Rhodesian businessmen at Victoria Falls.

Paying tribute to Dr Owen's personal qualities, Mr Smith said he offered "the best chance of a successful outcome to future negotiations that has occurred in the last 25 years."

The Deputy Prime Minister spoke bluntly of Rhodesia's economic problems, saying that the guerrilla conflict was draining financial resources. There would be lower allocation of funds for development in the next budget estimates in July. The money saved would be diverted to defence costs.

Mr Smith said: "The conditions of terrorism in the country, the political uncertainties, the international and domestic recessions and the frequency of call-ups have all combined to create a climate of doubt and a degree of tension. Confidence has taken a heavy blow in every sphere of activity."

He urged the businessmen to accept the need for changes, saying that whether the changes were welcomed or not, realism was vital and people had to adapt to changes which were inevitable.

A military communiqué today said nationalist guerrillas had killed three soldiers, two whites and an African, while security forces had killed 14 guerrillas in the past 24 hours.

S Africa allows Young visit

Washington, May 11.—The South African Government has approved a visit by Mr Andrew Young, the controversial United States representative at the United Nations, but not on the date he had originally planned, the State Department said.

Mr Young will travel to South Africa on May 21, not May 19, as he originally intended, Rens.

Hopeful start to SALT talks

Geneva, May 11.—The strategic arms limitation talks resumed today with a two-hour meeting between the chief American and Soviet delegates in a more hopeful climate.

One reason for the better atmosphere is a Soviet compromise proposal floated last week at a 10 per cent cut in the missile and bomber force, setting set in Vladivostok.

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SPORT Cricket

Greig is hoping for a compromise

By Richard Streeton

Tony Greig stressed that there was no intention to harm the present structure of Test cricket and that when he made his first public statement yesterday about the cricket circus planned by the Australian newspaper, television and radio magnates, a compromise had to be reached between the English, Australian and other authorities or cricket could suffer but this was not what those involved wanted.

Greig spoke fluently at a press conference at the Hove ground for 30 minutes. If there were brief moments of arrogance and naivety present, too, he was never less than frank. He claimed that his main objective was to improve the financial lot of the ordinary cricketer. He said there was a lot of money being put into the English game from sponsors but it was not going into the pockets of the players.

One quote summarized Greig's attitude and those of the world's other 34 leading players involved: "There is nothing in the world in my case I want to do more than to carry on playing for England. We do not want this to become a battle. We want a compromise: we want a better deal for cricketers the world over; we want cricketers to get the same respect in tennis and golf. And when this comes about cricket will benefit because of the encouragement it will give for people to enter the game."

Greig brought in tennis and golf several times at the moment of his speech. "Any young man brilliant at golf, tennis and cricket today would be very likely to be asked to go into cricket," he said. "The whole basis of all this is an ideal, but nobody is going to do it for money. These guys who are involved are not going to have already given their lives to cricket."

Greig said that if he lost the captaincy of England through having signed the contract with Mr. Packer, it would have to be considered a necessary sacrifice. He said that he was not a man who was easily swayed. "The only way I'm not available for the test is to captain England is if Lord's say so. This summer is usually in the hands of a compromise between Lord's and Mr. Packer."

There would, however, have to be some juggling of dates to fit in with the cricketing calendar and the involvement of the Australian and New Zealand players.



Tony Greig answering questions at Hove yesterday.

We have here something based on a principle: the plight of the Australian cricketer is dreadful. What we are not paid what they are worth. "The whole basis of all this is an ideal, but nobody is going to do it for money. These guys who are involved are not going to have already given their lives to cricket."

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Shoreditch Sparrow still poised for action

By Alan Gibson

THE OVAL: Surrey have scored 65 for six against Essex.

The rain, though never distant, began at lunchtime. It continued, only intermittently severe, but severe enough to prevent the match from being played. The match was abandoned for the day. After the umpires had inspected the pitch, and found it unsuitable for play, the match was abandoned for the day. The match was abandoned for the day. The match was abandoned for the day.

Derby the stronger in match of character

By Norman Fox

Derby County, champions of the Football League, and Queens Park Rangers, runners-up, met at the Baseball Ground in Derby last night in a match of character. Derby were the stronger in the match, but Rangers were the winners. Derby were the stronger in the match, but Rangers were the winners. Derby were the stronger in the match, but Rangers were the winners.

Palace shut the door on Welsh revelry

By Tom Garman

The celebrations at Crystal Palace for the Welsh Cup final were a disappointment. The Welsh Cup final was a disappointment. The Welsh Cup final was a disappointment. The Welsh Cup final was a disappointment. The Welsh Cup final was a disappointment.

Idea that talks will solve problem is naive

By John Woodcock

Cricket Correspondent

Tony Greig has many ideas to him. He is competitive and articulate, charming and fearless, mercurial and handsome. He is also extraordinarily naive. He thinks that he can play in Australia for the next three winters, as he appears to have committed himself to do so. He is naive. He is naive. He is naive.

Knott being carried along by his captain. He has spoken for a year or two about wanting to give up test cricket. But not Underwood, who must be wondering this morning whether he has allowed himself to be talked out of taking over the captaincy. He is naive. He is naive. He is naive.

I need hardly say that the "average county cricketer" views the whole Packer operation with a good deal of cynicism. He is naive. He is naive. He is naive.

Revenge for Hamburg

Amsterdam, May 11

Derby County, champions of the Football League, and Queens Park Rangers, runners-up, met at the Baseball Ground in Derby last night in a match of character. Derby were the stronger in the match, but Rangers were the winners. Derby were the stronger in the match, but Rangers were the winners.

Stoke rally capped by Crooks

Stoke 3

What started as a one-sided contest turned into a second half thriller. In the first half Hill and McGee scored for Stoke. Stoke were the stronger in the match, but Rangers were the winners. Stoke were the stronger in the match, but Rangers were the winners.

Pakistanis told they cannot go

Karachi, May 11

The Pakistanis told they cannot go. The Pakistanis told they cannot go. The Pakistanis told they cannot go. The Pakistanis told they cannot go. The Pakistanis told they cannot go.

Wimbledon again

Wimbledon

Wimbledon again. Wimbledon again. Wimbledon again. Wimbledon again. Wimbledon again. Wimbledon again. Wimbledon again. Wimbledon again. Wimbledon again.

Results yesterday

League	Home	Score	Away
First Division	Sheff Wed	1-0	Sheff Utd
Second Division	Sheff Wed	1-0	Sheff Utd
Third Division	Sheff Wed	1-0	Sheff Utd

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Steele defies Yorkshire: Boycott duck

David Steele, of Northamptonshire, defied Yorkshire for 59 overs in making a valuable 69 at Northampton yesterday.

Lord's, Middlesex's new fast bowler, took all three Kent wickets in the first 10 minutes of play that were possible. The West Indian trapped Johnson before 10 after Selvey had had a good start. Steele defied Yorkshire: Boycott duck.

Northants v Yorkshire

Northants	Yorkshire
Steele 69	Boycott 69
Steele 69	Boycott 69
Steele 69	Boycott 69

Leicestershire v Worcester

Leicestershire	Worcester
Steele 69	Boycott 69
Steele 69	Boycott 69
Steele 69	Boycott 69

Sussex v Lancashire

Sussex 100

Sussex 100. Sussex 100. Sussex 100. Sussex 100. Sussex 100. Sussex 100. Sussex 100. Sussex 100. Sussex 100.

Oxford U v Gloucester

Oxford U 100

Oxford U 100. Oxford U 100. Oxford U 100. Oxford U 100. Oxford U 100. Oxford U 100. Oxford U 100. Oxford U 100.

Second XI competition

Second XI competition

Team	Score
Second XI	100
Second XI	100
Second XI	100

Today's football

Today's football

Today's football. Today's football. Today's football. Today's football. Today's football. Today's football. Today's football. Today's football.

After 1,000 matches, Moore thinks ahead to the next move

Walking towards the quicksands

By Geoffrey Green

The football stage is about to become a desert of many of its leading players move into retirement. Bobby Moore is one of the players who is walking towards the quicksands. Bobby Moore is one of the players who is walking towards the quicksands. Bobby Moore is one of the players who is walking towards the quicksands.

Gray out of party

Gray out of party

Gray out of party. Gray out of party. Gray out of party. Gray out of party. Gray out of party. Gray out of party. Gray out of party. Gray out of party.

Evening racing

Evening racing

Track	Time
Evening	100
Evening	100
Evening	100

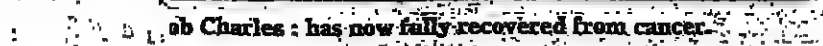
Ludlow NH

Ludlow NH

Track	Time
Ludlow	100
Ludlow	100
Ludlow	100

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Welsh
elry



Bob Charles took the lead with

Tennis

from Rex Bellamy. (box of expectancy was exceeded by the word after session on

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...and the fact that the *Journal* is a journal of the American Psychological Association, the largest and most influential organization in the field of psychology, adds to the journal's prestige and makes it a must-read for all psychologists.

By Pamela Macgregor-Morris
Dana Bishop, one of the

Colonel Neil Foster, Master of the Grafton Hounds, and Archie

the JackKestrel Hounds, Mr. Roly Barker, Morning Glory, who is

Happy Mediums, H. Mack, Sharp, and
Dolme, Grade B: 1. M. Pyrah's Up-
stream; 2. M. Snake's Scourall; 3.

A serious test confronts the

improved since then and showed, during their three matches in Eng-

1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 2063, 2064, 2065, 2066, 2067, 2068, 2069, 2070, 2071, 2072, 2073, 2074, 2075, 2076, 2077, 2078, 2079, 2080, 2081, 2082, 2083, 2084, 2085, 2086, 2087, 2088, 2089, 2090, 2091, 2092, 2093, 2094, 2095, 2096, 2097, 2098, 2099, 2100, 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108, 2109, 2110, 2111, 2112, 2113, 2114, 2115, 2116, 2117, 2118, 2119, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2123, 2124, 2125, 2126, 2127, 2128, 2129, 2130, 2131, 2132, 2133, 2134, 2135, 2136, 2137, 2138, 2139, 2140, 2141, 2142, 2143, 2144, 2145, 2146, 2147, 2148, 2149, 2150, 2151, 2152, 2153, 2154, 2155, 2156, 2157, 2158, 2159, 2160, 2161, 2162, 2163, 2164, 2165, 2166, 2167, 2168, 2169, 2170, 2171, 2172, 2173, 2174, 2175, 2176, 2177, 2178, 2179, 2180, 2181, 2182, 2183, 2184, 2185, 2186, 2187, 2188, 2189, 2190, 2191, 2192, 2193, 2194, 2195, 2196, 2197, 2198, 2199, 2200, 2201, 2202, 2203, 2204, 2205, 2206, 2207, 2208, 2209, 2210, 2211, 2212, 2213, 2214, 2215, 2216, 2217, 2218, 2219, 2220, 2221, 2222, 2223, 2224, 2225, 2226, 2227, 2228, 2229, 2230, 2231, 2232, 2233, 2234, 2235, 2236, 2237, 2238, 2239, 2240, 2241, 2242, 2243, 2244, 2245, 2246, 2247, 2248, 2249, 2250, 2251, 2252, 2253, 2254, 2255, 2256, 2257, 2258, 2259, 2260, 2261, 2262, 2263, 2264, 2265, 2266, 2267, 2268, 2269, 2270, 2271, 2272, 2273, 2274, 2275, 2276, 2277, 2278, 2279, 2280, 2281, 2282, 2283, 2284, 2285, 2286, 2287, 2288, 2289, 2290, 2291, 2292, 2293, 2294, 2295, 2296, 2297, 2298, 2299, 2300, 2301, 2302, 2303, 2304, 2305, 2306, 2307, 2308, 2309, 2310, 2311, 2312, 2313, 2314, 2315, 2316, 2317, 2318, 2319, 2320, 2321, 2322, 2323, 2324, 2325, 2326, 2327, 2328, 2329, 2330, 2331, 2332, 2333, 2334, 2335, 2336, 2337, 2338, 2339, 2340, 2341, 2342, 2343, 2344, 2345, 2346, 2347, 2348, 2349, 2350, 2351, 2352, 2353, 2354, 2355, 2356, 2357, 2358, 2359, 2360, 2361, 2362, 2363, 2364, 2365, 2366, 2367, 2368, 2369, 2370, 2371, 2372, 2373, 2374, 2375, 2376, 2377, 2378, 2379, 2380, 2381, 2382, 2383, 2384, 2385, 2386, 2387, 2388, 2389, 2390, 2391, 2392, 2393, 2394, 2395, 2396, 2397, 2398, 2399, 2400, 2401, 2402, 2403, 2404, 2405, 2406, 2407, 2408, 2409, 2410, 2411, 2412, 2413, 2414, 2415, 2416, 2417, 2418, 2419, 2420, 2421, 2422, 2423, 2424, 2425, 2426, 2427, 2428, 2429, 2430, 2431, 2432, 2433, 2434, 2435, 2436, 2437, 2438, 2439, 2440, 2441, 2442, 2443, 2444, 2445, 2446, 2447, 2448, 2449, 2450, 2451, 2452, 2453, 2454, 2455, 2456, 2457, 2458, 2459, 2460, 2461, 2462, 2463, 2464, 2465, 2466, 2467, 2468, 2469, 2470, 2471, 2472, 2473, 2474, 2475, 2476, 2477, 2478, 2479, 2480, 2481, 2482, 2483, 2484, 2485, 2486, 2487, 2488, 2489, 2490, 2491, 2492, 2493, 2494, 2495, 2496, 2497, 2498, 2499, 2500, 2501, 2502, 2503, 2504, 2505, 2506, 2507, 2508, 2509, 2510, 2511, 2512, 2513, 2514, 2515, 2516, 2517, 2518, 2519, 2520, 2521, 2522, 2523, 2524, 2525, 2526, 2527, 2528, 2529, 2530, 2531, 2532, 2533, 2534, 2535, 2536, 2537, 2538, 2539, 2540, 2541, 2542, 2543, 2544, 2545, 2546, 2547, 2548, 2549, 2550, 2551, 2552, 2553, 2554, 2555, 2556, 2557, 2558, 2559, 2560, 2561, 2562, 2563, 2564, 2565, 2566, 2567, 2568, 2569, 2570, 2571, 2572, 2573, 2574, 2575, 2576, 2577, 2578, 2579, 2580, 2581, 2582, 2583, 2584, 2585, 2586, 2587, 2588, 2589, 2590, 2591, 2592, 2593, 2594, 2595, 2596, 2597, 2598, 2599, 2600, 2601, 2602, 2603, 2604, 2605, 2606, 2607, 2608, 2609, 2610, 2611, 2612, 2613, 2614, 2615, 2616, 2617, 2618, 2619, 2620, 2621, 2622, 2623, 2624, 2625, 2626, 2627, 2628, 2629, 2630, 2631, 2632, 2633, 2634, 2635, 2636, 2637, 2638, 2639, 2640, 2641, 2642, 2643, 2644, 2645, 2646, 2647, 2648, 2649, 2650, 2651, 2652, 2653, 2654, 2655, 2656, 2657, 2658, 2659, 2660, 2661, 2662, 2663, 2664, 2665, 2666, 2667, 2668, 2669, 2670, 2671, 2672, 2673, 2674, 2675, 2676, 2677, 2678, 26

shire Cup last year riding Brund and now he has a good chance of winning it again on "Hark."

of course they were not. Bright Finish has not run this season, but Shangamuro has already paid

91 Araky (B) (Mr. G. F.)
92 Dior Queen (B) (G. C.)

005	040-121	Future Forest (C.D.) 1P
006	0001-80	Udabkory (C.D.) (J. Fl.)

10	6330-00	Embroid, D. Thompson, G. P.
11	3300-00	Stairroom, Thompson, Jones
13	40-0003	Washington Gray, P. Miller
16	324-222	Zipperd-Deo-Dah (CD)

3	40	Granitic, P. Mitchell, 8-
3	0	Hile, R. Houghton, 8-8

work since then has been anything but encouraging. Empty Jett, the

time in four years. He is clearly in form and at his best he is still a very hard nut to crack.

Alpers, J. Winter, B-13 E. Hyde 3
B. Taylor 3
C. Arnold, B-13 E. Hyde 3

Campan, N. Angus, 4-4 E. Hild
Lyon, B. Neeb, 1-2 A. 2001

4-7-8	B. Sharrer	7
ell, 4-7-7	R. Sull	17
Benstead, 5-2-7	D. Cullen	7

R. Reader	4
J. Reid	3 6

for the second time, Wragg must be taken out of the Derby. G. Harwood still favours the Irish Smear Derby rather than English.

at Epsom. All offers of 33-1 against Lucky Sovereign for the Derby were quickly snapped up by the public. The favorite was Aboyeur, who was awarded the race on the disqualification of the runner-up, Easterby's Revlew, who made every yard of the running in the Derby. Handicapper, General.

NO1	11220-0	Blackadder (D. Davidson), P. Walwyn, 9-0	P. Eddery	9	Up- Pride of Longdon, 7-11-7	O'Brien
NO2	13-0	Windy Sea (Aly. S. Bullock), S. Hanbury, 8-6	S. Raymond	6	000 Rose St Careful, 5-11-7	Drummond
NO3	2313-0	Silver Sands (C. J. Meloni), I. Ridding, 8-3	J. Mathias	7		

601	0520-10	Rohsarni (D)	Ld Porchester, W. Ham.	4-9-7	W. Carson	5	21
602	0140-00	Turt Loder	O. Crabble,	T. Craig	4-8-7	K. Leason	1-30
603	3310-00	Whitby Jet	N. Chapman,	J. Calver,	3-8-12	B.	1-30

2-1 Lady Freeze, 5-2 Rapido, 6-1 Sovereign's Escort, 8-1 Jens Reppin, 10-1 Bishops Down, 12-1 Durham Warrior, Regal Wonder, 10-1 others.

1.45 Edgar Hunt. 3.15 Sea Waif. 3.45 Dred Scott. 4.15 Rapid.

33-1

CONCLUSIONS

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3

ly

11

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7

NEW BOOKS

So quiet a life

J. R. R. Tolkien

By Humphrey

Carpenter

(Allen & Unwin, £4.95)

The Tolkien

Companion

By J. E. A. Tyler

(Picador, £1.50)

One afternoon in the early

1930s, the Rawlinson and Bos-

worth Professor of Anglo-Saxon

at the University of Oxford was

marking 'School Certificate

examination papers in the study

of his little house at Heading-

ton. Among the papers was a

blank page on which he un-

thinkingly scribbled the words

"a hole in the ground there

lived a hobbit". He had better,

he thought, find out what that

sentence meant. Sixteen years

later, *The Lord of the Rings*

was published, and J. R. R.

Tolkien was famous.

And that is the story of his

life. That Mr Carpenter has

been able to write so fascinat-

ing a biography of so quiet a

life is astonishing; but it is true

that this is one of the most

interesting and readable bio-

graphies of a literary figure for

some time—and not only for

hobbitomaniacs.

The central elements of

Tolkien's life were fixed before

he was out of his teens. His

interest in languages was

fostered by his mother, who

died when he was eleven, leav-

ing him an orphan; already

"words took the place of music

for him". A teacher interested

him in Anglo-Saxon, and at his

school debating society he spoke

in that language as well as

English, Latin, Greek and

Gothic. Already he loved trees,

and had invented his own

private language, not only

coining the words but investi-

gating their derivation. Mr

Carpenter conveys wonderfully

well his passion for philology.

Tolkien met his wife-to-be,

Edith, when he was 16 and she

was 19. Forbidden even to

write to her until he was 21,

he eventually married her—but

by that time was used to the

exclusively male world of

Oxford, and was to remain all

his life devoted to the juvenile

organization of schoolboyish

clubs and secret societies. Per-

haps his chief friendship,

though it had its ups and

downs, was with C. S. Lewis,

with whom he shared one of

those intense, devotional, platonic

affairs which so resembled

schoolboy crushes. Mrs

Tolkien felt, and was, excluded

from much of her husband's life.

Mr Carpenter fills his book

with the intensity of Tolkien's

intellectual life, showing us his

subject in all his dark moods

and childish humours, and

detailing his meticulous passion

for his work. It is, of course,

to devotees of his writing that

this aspect of the book will be

most interesting. Some ele-

ments of *The Lord of the Rings*

emerge very clearly, and the

Gandee of Birmingham

appears, for instance, on page

21; on page 51 we find Tolkien

buying, in Switzerland, a post-

card of a painting of an old

man by Madonnino, which he

later wrote: "Origin of

Gandalf". The publishing his-

tory of the trilogy is also

fascinating.

But there is more than this

there is the story of the long

saga of *Silmarillion*, which pre-

ceded the hobbit books, and will

shortly be published. And in

particular Mr Carpenter

shows the excitement with

which Tolkien's work filled him

and his strong feeling that in

it he was setting down a chroni-

cle of actual events. When he

had written some arcane verses

in Elvish, he would "try to

find out" what they meant—

"try to invent". His attitude

to myth in general was

extremely important to him not

only as a writer but as a Roman

Catholic—a discussion of his

meaningful play a fascinating

and important part in the con-

version to Christianity of his

friend Lewis. (The intensity of

his own myth, by the way, is

emphasized by a study of the

excellent *The Tolkien Com-*

panion not in paperback.)

It is a dangerous thing to

say—for certainly there will be

other deductions to be made

about Tolkien, his life and his

work—but it is difficult to

imagine a better or more sym-

pathetic biography than this.

Derek Parker

Learning the hardest lessons

Growing Pains

The Shaping of a Writer

By Daphne du Maurier

(Gollancz, £4.95)

Until now Daphne du Maurier

has written about her family

(Gerald, *The Du Mauriers*, andthe fictional *Mary Anne* and*The Glassblowers*) rather than

herself. She has decided to

go back to her childhood

and adolescence and to her

beginnings as a writer, saying

that now that she is 70, she

has vivid memories of that

period, while forgetting what

happened a week ago. Fortu-

nately, she kept diaries from

1920 when she was 12 until she

married in 1932.

Second daughter of the

famous actor-manager, Gerald

du Maurier, life was certainly

free from poverty, but not

from fear, shyness, the pain of

losing loved ones to suc-

cession, cross Nurse, grumpy

Nurse H'm H'm, Nurse

Bum and a series of Norland

nurses. Bullied in the Park by

a horrid little boy (John Poy-

nton—nobody, ever forgets a

bully) she learned, at five one

of the hardest lessons. Not

everyone can be trusted, nor

even grown ups or relations,

and "in the wood of the world

you are on your own".

Theatricals in the nursery fed

a literary imagination. Angela,

the eldest took the girls' parts,

and Daphne played both

Jim Hawkins and Long John

Silver, with a four-year-old

brother, a little girl, and a

were the inspiration—in particu-

lar Harrison Ainsworth's *Old**St Paul's*, causing plague

stricken teddy bears to be

buried in flower beds turned

plague pits.

Daphne was the "difficult"

one—shy, unforthcoming, the

onset of menstruation, ex-

plained inadequately by an

embarrassed Mother (with

whom she did not get on particu-

larly well) was a mystery to

be kept secret. Characters in

the books she read were more

real and provided more com-

fort than life. At 13 she in-

vented as alter ego, her first

fictional character, Eric Avon,

Captain Cricketer, in School

House, Rugby.

At 14 her heart missed a

beat at a smile from Cousin

Geoffrey, aged 36, a practised

charmer with a come-hither

glance, already married. An in-

terestingly well-written story

of a girl who has been awa-

kened "and the instinctive know-

ledge that nobody must know".

The facts of life, revealed to her

when she was 18, came as a

source of astonishment and dis-

belief. "What an extraordinary

thing for people to want to

do!"

Fowey in Cornwall as a hol-

iday home and Paris seen from

a finishing school were impor-

tant landmarks in her develop-

ment. A devotion to the direc-

trix of the finishing school

opened many doors in the

understanding of people and

their motives, gaining a

lifelong friend. The house at

Fowey was bought by the pro-

fessor her father made from

Edgar Wallace's play *The**Ringer*. As a holiday house it

pleased them all, but to

Daphne it was "the freedom

to write, to work, to wander,

freedom to climb hills, to pull

a boat, to be alone".

From then on it was a battle

to be at Fowey or in Paris,

away from the boredom of

London and the parental res-

trictions which seemed so un-

reasonable. "I hope when you

come home you won't start

that practice of going out

again in the evenings, which

was so worrying", wrote her

mother to the 21-year-old

rebelliously pretty Daphne. On

the other hand, her mother

had no objection to Daphne

going on a cruise on a private

yacht with people she hardly

knew. At Fowey the first book,

The Loving Spirit, was written,

the first of a series. Marie

Louise, a fishing lugger, was

being built. (She got a rowing

boat as a twenty-first birthday

present.) She had treasured by

getting into Menability, the

house of secrets, beautiful and

deserted, and had fallen in love

with it. Later, from 1943 until

1967, she would live there, and

immortalize it in *Rebecca* and*Manderley*.*Growing Pains* is a delightful

book, full of amusing and

charming stories, pinpointing

the literary influences and the

first stirrings of books to be

written in later years, and with

happy and romantic endings.

"There's a most attractive man

going up and down the har-

bour in a white motor boat",

said her sister Angela, in the

late summer of 1931. It was,

they discovered, Major

Browning. The following April

he introduced himself, and in

July, Daphne married him. In

her diary she wrote, most un-

propitiously, "Adieu, Daphne

du Maurier".

Philip Toomey

Books next week: on Monday,

Jessica Mitford's autobiography,

A Fine Old Confess; Reviews

on Thursday include Paul

Barker on the National Front.



Woman and Parrot, Bengal, Kalighat School, 1875, from *Indian Drawings and Painted Sketches, 16th through 19th Centuries*, by Stuart Cary Welch (Weatherhill/Phaidon, £9.95).

Less than kin

Kissing Cousins

An Interpretation of British and

American Culture, 1945 to 1975.

By Daniel Snowman

(Maurice Temple Smith, £6.50)

"No dogs allowed" (US ver-

sion); "We regret that in the

interests of hygiene, dogs are

not allowed" (British version).

Daniel Snowman has written

a study of the Americans and

the British in an era of great,

apparent change. Among his

starting points is puzzling at

why such casually nations vary

so markedly even on such minor

matters. But are they minor?

As he shrewdly says: the dif-

ference between British and

American society is partly a dif-

ference in whom you trust, and

why you trust them.

He has bitten off a difficult,

tantalising and occasionally

nebulous subject. His aim is a

complex one. Over the years,

1945-75, he is trying, first, to

pin down how British and

American cultures have cross-

pollinated each other. (Many

other commentators, of course,

would more readily see British

culture as a shrinking violet

displaced by a more vibrant

bumbler.) But he is also try-

ing to assess how both cultures

s under
ter to
charter

Richie Calder said, "I would like to see the people who are responsible for the situation in the city of New York, and I would like to see them punished."

[illegible][illegible][illegible]

1. The first step is to identify the key components of the system. This includes understanding the hardware, software, and network architecture.

2. Next, we need to define the requirements for the system. This involves determining the functional and non-functional requirements.

3. Once the requirements are defined, we can proceed to the design phase. This includes creating a detailed architecture and design documents.

4. The implementation phase follows, where the system is built according to the design. This involves coding, testing, and deployment.

5. Finally, the system is maintained and updated as needed. This includes monitoring performance, troubleshooting issues, and implementing new features.


[illegible][illegible]

1. *Chlorophyll a* and *Chlorophyll b* were determined by the method of Arar and Collins (1987). The concentration of chlorophylls was expressed in $\mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$ of the sample.

1. *Chlorophyll a* (Chl *a*)

Agents

1. *Chlorophyll a* and *Chlorophyll b* were determined by the method of Arar and Collins (1987). The concentration of chlorophylls was expressed as $\mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$ of the sample.



Incidents

Green 42p. Blue 45p. Red 49p. Extra Mild 51p. King Size 53p. International 62p.

Recommended prices at 11th May.

SC12

LOWTAR As defined by H. M. Government

EVERY PACKET CARRIES A GOVERNMENT HEALTH WARNING

Ronald Butt

Can Mrs Thatcher come to terms with state ownership?

What will the Conservatives do when and if they come to power? The likelihood that they will win whenever the election comes must now be reckoned so substantial as to make the question one of real practicality. I therefore hope to apply the question to a number of topics, from time to time, starting today with nationalization.

The Tories, of course, have always been against state ownership. Their position has been rooted in their philosophical and practical belief in the efficacy of private enterprise and the stifling effect of bureaucracy on personal freedom. On the other hand, they have for a long time had to put up with state owned industries that they cannot hope to dismantle, and to rest content for the most part with trying to impose more testing financial standards on them.

mentally, probably more hostile to state ownership than any of her recent Tory predecessors. But, of course, she knows as well as they did that she will not be able to dismantle the greater part of state ownership. Publicly owned railways, coal and steel (for who would take the last named if it were denationalized a second time in its present state?) are here to stay, not to mention the utilities, gas and electricity and the now proliferating Post Office.

On the other hand, Mrs Thatcher's dislike of state ownership is not just a crude, reflex reference back to traditional Conservative attitudes. The Conservatives can fairly claim that they now have the proof of a rather bad pudding from the eating of it in two major respects.

For one thing, it is all too evident that the real test of any government's capacity to keep some sort of overall control over wages (and I do not mean that in terms of conventional pay policies) always runs the greatest risk of being tested to destruction in the public sector. There the government is itself the employer of last resort. If private employers pay more

wages than they can afford, they can either go bust or put up prices, and if inflation results, the government can intervene by controlling the supply of money.

But what is a government to do when it is politically tested by unions using their whole weight for unjustified wages in a public monopoly industry when the government's political popularity may depend on whether or not it will consent to raise a subsidy to pay for higher wages?

In the end, of course, it will, as always, be a matter of political leadership and reason, but nobody can deny that the existence of so high a nationalized proportion of industry, not to mention the government's job as the employer in the social arms of the public sector (in the case of nurses, for instance), makes any government's job harder as it tries to prevent industrial wage pressure being used unreasonably.

As for nationalization as a recipe for avoiding decline, the NEDD report on the nationalized industries showed that those nationalized in the 1945-51 period, far from taking an increasing share of output and employment, have diminished in both respects. Only the addition of new nationalized industries has maintained the proportion of the public sector. On that basis, nationalization is no more likely to be a solution for decking shipbuilding industry than it was for coal and steel. State ownership cannot protect an industry from the facts of industrial life, nationally and internationally.

Yet when all this has been said, it must be added that there could be no question of a major Conservative attempt at denationalization of the long-standing state-owned industries, and that the only measure of recent nationalization that the Conservatives seem absolutely confident of being able to reverse is lead—the Community Lead Act having plainly come unstuck. But even the Tory approach to shipbuilding and aircraft is very much more than a matter of reversing the Community Lead Act.

As much as possible of the interests of British Shipbuilders and British Aerospace... should be sold off to the private sector," says the Tory government's manifesto known as *The Right Approach*.

But how much and by what means? Mrs Thatcher thinks that a great deal can be done to reduce the size of public sector if she has two or three Parliaments in which to do it.



Labour's by-election losers: D. J. Winnick (Walsall North); M. Cowan (Ashfield); T. Davis (Stechford); D. Campbell-Savours (Wokington).

After Labour's spectacular defeats, the future looks far from rosy

Labour's spectacular by-election defeats have prompted questions about its long-term electoral prospects. Do Wokington, Walsall North, Stechford and Ashfield reflect no more than the normal mid-term unpopularity of the party in office, or do they imply a deeper-lying and more permanent disenchantment with Labour?

Labour optimists can make two points. First, the fall in Labour's share of the vote is no worse than it was in 1968/69 or indeed than that suffered by the Conservatives at Sutton, Ely and Ripon in 1972/73 (although the latter two were held by the Liberals rather than Labour). But these comparisons are misleading.

Labour's by-election humiliations in the late 1960s occurred after its exceptionally strong showing in the 1966 general election, when it had 48 per cent of the vote including many "unattached" voters. It thus had an unusually large number of voters "at risk" in the by-elections that followed. So for similar reasons did the Conservatives after 1970.

Labour's losses in the recent by-elections, however, have come after its much poorer showing in the October 1974 election, when it won only 39 per cent of the poll, almost all of whom will have been regular Labour supporters. This time Labour has therefore had many fewer voters "at risk" and should have incurred milder adverse swings. The fact that its percentage vote losses equal those of the late 1960s suggests quite abnormal erosion of support, even for a government in mid-term.

Labour also takes comfort from the regularity with which successive governments since the mid-1950s have recovered from dramatic setbacks in by-elections and local elections to win the subsequent election (the Conservatives in 1959) or at least force it to a close finish (the Conservatives in 1964 and Labour in 1970).

The forces sustaining this stabilizing electoral cycle, however, may be declining. In the past they have partly rested on the ability of the government of the day to manipulate the economy to its advantage in the election run-up. But the fragility of sterling, the conditions attached to the IMF loan, and the sheer economic consequences of such irresponsibility probably make this option less available to the present Government than to any other since the war.

The electoral cycle also rests on the deep and enduring attachments that most voters have traditionally held for one or other party attachments which sustain loyalty in times of doubt or disappointment, and thus save unpopular governments from electoral burial.

Political scientists divide such attachments into three kinds. First, *ties of habit*: the loyalty engendered by family, upbringing and neighbourhood tradition. Secondly, the *ties induced by membership of a social class*.

Outside Ulster this basically amounts to a sense of belonging (or equally of not belonging) to the working class and the trade union movement, accompanied by the belief that Labour represents the interests of both. And thirdly, there are *ideological ties*.

Since the early 1960s, however, the early 1960s suggest, however, that the attachments to the two main parties have been gradually weakening.

Psychological ties, for example, are conventionally measured by asking voters whether they "think of themselves" as Conservative, Labour, Liberal, etc. followed by the question: "And how strongly Conservative, Labour, etc. do you feel?" In 1964 the proportion of Labour and Conservative supporters describing themselves as "very strong" identifiers was 47 per cent; 10 years later it was down to 31 per cent.

The tie between class and party has weakened in parallel fashion. For one thing, the very notion of belonging to a social class has become less acceptable to British voters. In 1964 50 per cent were willing to give themselves a class label. A decade later, despite the revival of industrial militancy and the politics of class under the Heath administration, indeed perhaps because of it, the proportion had slipped to 43 per cent. And within the social classes support for their "natural" class party has also declined: between 1964 and 1974 the proportion of manual workers who "thought of themselves as Labour" fell from 58 per cent to 54 per cent; and the proportion of the middle class—the professions, managers and administrators and who "thought of themselves" as Conservative plummeted

from 67 per cent to 49 per cent, only to have diminished but also to have lost its partisan force.

The most intriguing change, however, relates to ideological ties, for here the positions of the two main parties diverge. Among Conservatives approval of their party's major policy positions has been consistently strong since the early 1950s. Whatever the source of the massive fall in the Conservative vote in 1974 it does not seem to be disaffection from the party's basic principles (as opposed, perhaps, to the particular record of the Heath Government).

In Labour's ranks, however, the last decade has witnessed a major haemorrhaging of support for the main policy tenets of the party. There is clear evidence of increasing hostility to Labour's traditional allies, the trade unions. In 1964 a majority of Labour supporters denied that trade unions were too powerful; by 1974 a majority agreed.

Declines of general sympathy for strikers slipped from 37 per cent to a minuscule 23 per cent. Endorsement of the party's links with the trade unions, which was never strong, trickled from 38 per cent to 25 per cent. Support for further nationalization—a principle enshrined in the party constitution—fell from 57 per cent to 50 per cent. And perhaps most significant of all, there has been a large drop in approval for what is generally regarded as Labour's strongest suit—spending on the social services—from 89 per cent in 1964 to 60 per cent 10 years later.

Only the belief that big business is too powerful has been steadily and heavily upheld in this period.

Only two of the six Labour "positions" listed in the table were supported by even a bare majority of Labour's own supporters. It is difficult to conceive of a party avoiding long-term decline if the majority of its surviving supporters reject the majority of its basic policies.

The implications for Labour are even more disturbing than the figures suggest. For ideological distinction has grown faster in some sectors of Labour support than others. Labour's younger middle class supporters, for example, are now the staunchest upholders of its traditional principles. Its younger working class and trade unionist supporters, on the other hand, have abandoned Labour policy positions faster than any other group. And it is on this large latter group—Labour's traditional "core"—that Labour will necessarily rely most heavily in the future.

Of course, nothing in a trend guarantees its continuation. It could be stopped by a vigorous and imaginative presentation of both the Government's case and of Labour's principles generally—as the Cumbria result shows. But should the erosion of Labour loyalties continue the Government will be less able than its predecessors to avoid massive defeat at the next election through reliance on the normal electoral cycle.

A detailed report appears in the latest issue of the *British Journal of Political Science*. The report is on a survey conducted by the British Election Study at the University of Essex.

Ivor Crewe
The author is Professor Director of The British Election Study at the University of Essex.

and ended with a gala dinner at the Mirabelle (two stars in *Rosny* and nothing in the *Good Food Guide*).

They did not come to criticism of them either in wine and orange sauce with faked, roasted almonds at the Mirabelle, Boccuse, who had left his wife and daughter to run the restaurant, said loyally that while it was almost impossible for restaurants in a large group to be superlative, the Mirabelle was an exception.

He and others expressed apparently genuine sympathy that Giscard d'Estaing, who gave Boccuse the Legion d'Honneur in return for a meal at the Elysee, could not be with them. The French President, of course, was eating at Buckingham Palace at the time.

Reputable
Continuing our survey of catering at stately homes, Alan Ransford took a lunch break at Hatfield House, in Hertfordshire.

Queen Elizabeth really did sleep here, for most of her childhood, and she is in the splendid hall of the old palace, now does a nice line in Elizabethan banquets. Daytime visitors pay 80p to enter the grounds and house, and can eat in most of the buildings in a simple but bright and clean self-service coffee shop in the

old stables, or at an adjoining waitress service restaurant, which was almost deserted at 12.30 on a Friday while the grounds swarmed with visitors, most of them school parties.

Catering at Hatfield is contracted out to a local bakery of good reputation, and the coffee shop had an attractive selection of cakes alongside the usual counter sell the simple hot meals of sandwiches or beans on toast, ideal dishes for starving children.

We had a generous egg salad at £1.10, made to order with two eggs and a good selection of tomatoes, cucumber, potato salad and other garnishings. The waitress even carefully and artistically replaced an egg yolk which fell from its white during serving.

We had a fish-wrapped egg sandwich in quick-frozen bread which was good and fresh but not over-fresh, for 27p, and a blackcurrant fruit tart at 40p, which my fruit pie expert received enthusiastically, pronouncing it large, fresh and very fruity. Liberally topped with fresh cream.

Two coffees at 15p brought a total bill of £2.07 for two. In the adjoining restaurant we could have had a three-course meal for £2.10 a head.

Service was friendly and efficient, and the coffee shop, which seats about 100, was comfortable even when full, and

can watch the blacksmith from the coffee shop window for nothing.

Next: Woburn Abbey and Leeds Castle.

The Times Diary

Putting some push into jubilee

If you have not yet decided how best to celebrate Jubilee week, you could do worse than retrieve that rusty old bicycle from the garden shed and saddle up for Jubilee Bike Week. This will have the threefold effect of working off the excess fat acquired at any other loyal junketings you may be attending, rousing up the heart muscles so that you have a sporting chance of living to see the Golden Jubilee, and raising money for the British Heart Foundation.

Bike Week was announced by the British Cycling Bureau at a press conference yesterday, and just to make sure everyone got the message, Katie Boyle, the celebrity, rode a bicycle round the country's 12 million cyclists to take part, though not in their living rooms.

The idea is that if you have a bike, you get all your friends to sponsor you for every mile you cycle during Bike Week, then hand the money over to the British Heart Foundation.

Sponsorship forms are being distributed to cycle shops, and there are prizes for the best cycling holiday in Holland.

Dr Malcolm Carruthers, a heart specialist and author of *The Western Way of Death*, extolled the virtues of cycling, describing it as much healthier than "silly" exercises like press-ups, and particularly suitable for overweight people. He introduced Percy Smith, who in spite of being 63 and having a pacemaker fitted to his heart, will start the Bike Week with a 500-mile sponsored cycle round British holiday camps.

After the cavalcade of Rolls-Royces at Windsor, there is to be a cavalcade of old bicycles, and the organizers will present a silver model to Prince Philip for the Jubilee appeal fund.

"I understand," said a man from the Cycling Bureau confidentially, "that the Queen cycle, but I've never seen her do it."

Another highlight of the week will be a marathon 1,000-mile journey by 12 veteran cyclists from Buckingham Palace to Balmoral, setting off on June 5.

Sir George Young, MP for Acton and chairman of the all-party parliamentary cycling group, reported that a growing number of MPs were taking two wheels, and that London cyclists were pressing for more cycleways in Hyde Park. "It would cost next to nothing and keep the cyclists off Park Lane," said Sir George, who cycles daily to the Commons from Acton.

But there are disadvantages, as Sir George found out recently. Cycling through the park one night after a late sitting, he was halfway across when the park keepers shut the gates for the night and locked them. He only escaped by hoisting himself and his machine over the railings.

The West Somerset Free Press reports that an experimental "adding-up course" at Wellington, aimed at teaching elementary arithmetic to adults, "is attracting countless members, according to the organizer, Mr Tony Byrne". Naturally.

Starry
This week a galaxy of stars from the Michelin guide have descended on Britain. It is not that the tyre company's inspectors have revised their car-madgeously attitude to our attempts at *haute cuisine*, but

the spring sortie of an organization called the Association des Traditions et Qualités, a self-perpetuating oligarchy and group, reported that a growing number of MPs were taking two wheels, and that London cyclists were pressing for more cycleways in Hyde Park. "It would cost next to nothing and keep the cyclists off Park Lane," said Sir George, who cycles daily to the Commons from Acton.

There are only 75 members in the world, the farthest flung hailing from the restaurant Rengaya in Tokyo. There is only one qualification for membership—that those who are already members are willing to accept you as a peer.

The party who have been visiting Britain include chefs and patrons from a clutch of restaurants which qualify for the top rating of three stars in the Michelin guides, and a host of accolades from other sources.

The Hesperides from Illhaeusern, a Troisgros brother from Roanne, Lasserre from the most elegant restaurant in Paris, and preeminent of all Paul Bocuse from Collonges au Mont d'Or, the only cook, surely, to have had his face on the covers of *Time*, *Newsweek*, and *L'Express* all in one month.

During their trip they took sleep here, for most of her childhood, and she is in the splendid hall of the old palace, now does a nice line in Elizabethan banquets. Daytime visitors pay 80p to enter the grounds and house, and can eat in most of the buildings in a simple but bright and clean self-service coffee shop in the

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The Jewish drop-outs putting emigration from Russia at risk

In 1971 the Soviet Union began to permit the emigration of appreciable numbers of Jews. This is important in the USSR and some rationale had to be found for allowing them to go abroad. But this could not, of course, be publicly admitted so the theory was propounded that, because Soviet Jewry is recognized as a nationality but does not have a republic of its own in the USSR (Jews should be able to go to their homeland (Israel) there to be reunited with their families. That is why almost all Jews who have left the Soviet Union have gone with Israeli visas.

In the early years of emigration, that is, until 1973, Jews who left were those who felt their Jewish identity most strongly. They were the people who had widespread the Jewish power of the state to demand the right to go; the idealists who opposed Soviet rule with their desire to live in the Jewish state. But as emigration increased, the people who were followed by others more anxious to leave Russia than settle in Israel. Their incentive for emigration was the search for freedom or for better economic opportunities rather than the Zionist ideal. And even some Zionists were deterred by the changed situation in Israel after the Yom Kippur War when the country seemed less desirable as a secure and permanent home.

In 1974, of the 20,000 Jews allowed out of Russia with Israeli visas, approximately 20 per cent sought destinations other than Israel. The following year the proportion rose above 50 per cent and last month it was 60 per cent. Out of a total of 135,000 Jews who left Russia, 19,000 of them were what the Israeli emigration authorities described as "drop-outs"—in Hebrew, "noshrim". These noshrim have given rise to an issue which is causing debate both in Israel and the United States.

A slightly different problem was a recent discovery received widely publicity concerns the relatively small number of Russian Jews who, having arrived in Israel, now want to leave. Some want to return to Russia, others to be resettled elsewhere. Their present unhappy situation in "limbo" arises because the Russians will not readily have them back, while those who want to move on cannot claim to be refugees for a second time and thus receive philanthropic assistance.

The attitude of the Israeli government to the noshrim is that Soviet Jews who want to emigrate to countries other than Israel should apply for visas to those countries. Obviously, this would make it more difficult for the intending emigrant to get out but that is felt to be preferable to condoning the abuse of Israeli visas as a pretext for going elsewhere. The responsible officials feel that the whole programme of Jewish emigration from Russia could be at risk if the Soviet authorities took up the position that they were being duped.

The proposition of this view is further and says that if a Jew with an Israeli visa arrives in Vienna—the first stopping place outside Russia—and there decides that he does not want to go to Israel, he should not receive assistance from the Jewish public funds. The object of this seems to be both penalizing the individual for his own misrepresentation and discouraging others from following the same course. An Israeli visa given to someone who does not use it, deprives another Russian Jew of his place in the emigration queue.

This is a very emotive issue for Jews and Abba Eban, a former Israeli Foreign Minister, has expressed his objection to the official line in a message to American Jews. He declared that "Jews who emigrate from the Soviet Union to the United States with Israeli visas do a great disservice to the causal interests of the Jewish people". But he continued with the hope that "American Jews will reject any advice to withhold aid and compassion from Soviet Jews who reach a free haven anywhere in the world".

Two of Israel's leading newspapers have taken diametrically opposing views on the issue. An editorial in the *Jerusalem Post* urged that drop outs should not be aided by Israel or "world Jewry" because their "defection" jeopardizes the entire emigration movement from Russia. *Haaretz* (roughly Israel's equivalent of *The Times*) argued the opposite, and to these people would transgress a cardinal Jewish moral principle and that the rescue of Jews from a country where they cannot maintain their Jewishness is imperative, irrespective of their desertion.

Nowhere is the discussion more intense than in the United States where a Jewish population of some six million, almost half the total of world Jewry, are aware of their own immigrant origins, are particularly sensitive to the needs of oppressed Jews. The relief organization which has long been distinguished in this field, the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS), has despite some uprisings to the contrary,

continued giving help to the noshrim in their efforts to settle in the United States and other non-Israel destinations.

This has not pleased everybody, and the strongly Zionist organizations in the United States say that, apart from the issue of misuse of Israeli visas, giving such help only encourages the movement away from Israel, thus Jewish funds are limited and that there is no obligation on the part of Jewish people to finance noshrim in "their search for a warm and comfortable spot".

A rather different opinion is voiced by Dr Moses Rosen, Chief Rabbi of Romania, whose view is that it is the survival of Judaism, not individual Soviet Jews, that is threatened in the Soviet Union. He suggests that Jews who want to leave Jewish Israel will not go to Israel, while those only determined to go elsewhere—which they are entitled to do—will be lost to Judaism. He resolutely opposes the use of Jewish funds to help those who emigrate for economic rather than spiritual reasons.

To decide what policy should be applied in the face of these conflicting opinions, a committee was set up last summer composed of Jewish leaders and American Jews representing the major Jewish organizations. The Committee of Eight, as it became known, proposed that only Soviet Jews sincerely intending to emigrate to Israel should apply for an Israeli visa, and that those who look to the United States should apply for a visa to that country. In both cases the Jewish organizations would give help where possible. It also recommended that if an emigrant, on arrival in Vienna, changed his mind about his destination, he should receive no further help from Jewish public funds.

These proposals satisfied the Israelis who are eager for more immigrants. But the American Jewish public reaction was mixed. Practically every major organization expressed objections in a rare instance of diaspora Jewry resisting the hitherto unquestioned leadership of Israel in major Jewish concerns.

As a result, the committee has not in number, has taken back the proposals for further consideration.

The interest that President Carter had shown in human rights is bound to strengthen the stand of American Jews, but the outcome of the issue will not only affect the future of Soviet Jewish emigration but may go much further and spark off a fresh evaluation of the relationship between Israel and the Jewish diaspora.

William Frankel

can watch the blacksmith from the coffee shop window for nothing.

Next: Woburn Abbey and Leeds Castle.

Going
There is already a brisk trade in memorabilia from the Mummers sale, which only starts next week. At Sotheby's yesterday offers of £50 and £30 for complete sets of the illustrated catalogues (original price £30) were being briskly rejected.

The commissionaire was also advising people in search of the £350 unillustrated catalogue, unobtainable yesterday in London, to invest in any single volume of the remaining illustrated ones, sell it at a profit when they reached Montmorency and buy an unillustrated catalogue there. That was the deal in the antique trade.

The other day, when I printed a sign outside a typing school and egg dealer, I suggested that it represented the ultimate in polymathy. It is run a close second by an item in the *Times Educational Supplement* entitled the transfer of Professor H. R. Lops, professor of financial control at University College, Cardiff, to the chair of History at Westfield College, London.

PHS



A NEW PLAN FOR RHODESIA

The fruit of Dr Owen's tour of southern Africa and his discussions last week with Mr Vance were unveiled yesterday. They amount to the dispatch of a negotiating team under Mr John Graham to do the same round again to make concrete agreements out of Dr Owen's private identification of possibilities of agreement. The co-sponsorship of a conference by Britain and the United States, like the interim arrangements of the Kissinger plan are set aside. But there is to be a senior American official attached to the group, as there was a British official available for consultation in Dr Kissinger's team. Mr Nkomo may use this as an excuse not to play, but it proves the continuing of Anglo-American policy and the best angry British responsibility is now combined with American power. That is the first condition of success, and will be welcome to Africans who want a peaceful settlement.

Also hopeful was Dr Owen's assurance that this method of carrying matters further is approved by the front-line presidents. Its attraction for them is not far to seek. It keeps discussion with each of them private and bilateral, leaving them to maintain consultation with each other. It leaves them uncommitted to details, and to public pressures such as arise out of the set positions taken up at a conference. At the same time the one achievement which the Africans claim from the Geneva conference—a commitment to independence under majority rule by September 1978—is preserved in Dr Owen's formula, though careful reading does not

indicate that everything stands as falls by it.

While the objection of Mr Nkomo and Mr Mugabe to Anglo-American efforts has been met by dropping suggestions for a new conference, Dr Owen has said that he is ready to chair one if the need emerged from the work of the consultative group. It is possible to conceive of agreement being reached on a constitution to be embodied in legislation for the British parliament to enact, purely by bilateral discussions with the parties concerned, though there are obvious difficulties in dispensing with a plenary. The immediate problem of the consultative group is to argue Mr Nkomo and Mr Mugabe out of a position in which they are demanding a conference which Mr Smith surrenders at discretion, having discovered that his forces can no longer hold their own in the field. There is an attitude which takes no account of the certain preference by the vast majority of black Rhodesians for a transition to majority rule under peaceful auspices. It must be hoped therefore that Mr Nkomo and Mr Mugabe, and presumably the leaders of the guerrillas at the appropriate stage, will co-operate with the group.

Dr Owen's statement revealed nothing of Mr Smith's attitude. The great question is whether he is ready to stand down in 1978, either before or after an election, in favour of a black prime minister. It is still unknown whether he would do so on any terms at all, but it is the terms on which the constitutional discussions turn. Dr Owen's remarks yesterday on independence under a restricted

franchise, albeit a mistake quickly rectified by the new sovereign government, suggests that he has been discussing the question of safeguards in some detail with Mr Smith. So do his remarks on possible alternatives to an election for establishing a majority consent. What these portend it is hard to surmise. But the white population is not likely to accept the type of franchise which would, by sheer numbers, wipe out every white representative in a Zimbabwe parliament from the morrow of the election. The "sixth principle" requires that the minority should be protected from oppression by the majority. The course of history can best be read in Zambia's precedent, where white representation was gradually phased out, and the whites now keep right out of politics. Evidently Dr Owen still hopes that Zimbabwe development fund will keep white expertise in the new state, and in some way help reinforce formal safeguards, but he is wisely not being specific. The gap between what safeguards Mr Smith would accept in return for his resignation, and those Mr Mugabe would concede or honour is conjectural.

It is increasingly felt that the time is now short for a negotiated settlement. The friends of Rhodesia's white population seem to be worried. The British and American Governments evidently consider that it is urgent for them now to get moderate black regimes in office in Rhodesia and Namibia before they lose all influence over events in southern Africa. Even so, everything still turns on the reactions of Mr Smith and his Government.

MR CARTER'S EAST-WEST SOUNDINGS

President Carter's visit to London has left a distinct tingle in the air. With the public he has established himself as a man with the common touch. Among western politicians he has shown himself realistic, practical, and willing to listen. He has thus achieved one of his main aims in coming, which was to establish personal contact with Europe and to emphasize his commitment to its security. He has also done a lot to dispel the gloomy contemplation of failure which had become habitual in the western alliance over the past few years. He is not blind to the problems which face the alliance, but he has brought back to the White House the traditional American belief in the ability of democratic societies to regenerate from within to meet inner and outer challenges. It is a long time since such optimism emanated from Washington.

If the optimism is to prove justified the momentum generated by the summit and Nato meetings must be maintained. As far as Nato is concerned yesterday's communiqué is a promising starting point. It rightly emphasizes the need for better cooperation in defence production. Here a lot of work needs to be done on both sides of the Atlantic to improve cooperation among governments and to prevent this cooperation being undermined by the wrong sort of competition among business interests. Enormous improvements in the efficiency of the alliance could be achieved

at no extra cost if the more advanced forms of duplication and incompatibility of weapons systems were eliminated.

In more general terms the communiqué strikes about the right balance between confrontation and cooperation. It expresses particular concern about "the continuing growth in the strength and offensive capabilities of the armed forces of the Warsaw Pact countries", and emphasizes the need for adequate defence and deterrence. At the same time it calls for "concerted efforts to reduce the level of armaments through realistic measures of disarmament and arms control". It also invites the Warsaw Pact countries to play a constructive role in north-south relations, which they have hitherto largely refused.

The basic message, in other words, is that Nato is ready for cooperation with the Warsaw Pact but is more determined than ever to maintain its defence until they can be lowered in the context of agreements which ensure undiminished security. Such agreements remain disappointingly elusive, which is one reason for the marked deterioration of east-west relations over the past few years. The west explains this largely as a result of the unbridled build-up of Soviet forces, which has already taken the Soviet Union well past the point of defensive sufficiency. The Russians, seemingly secure in the conviction of their own invincibility, say that western anxieties are the result of hostile

or artificially fomented pressures within western societies.

The Russians either cannot or will not see that they bear some responsibility for the reaction which their actions provoke in the West. Perhaps this is a genuine blind spot in their vision, or perhaps it is a result of their own press being so self-congratulatory and uncritical, but until it is overcome there will remain at very least a wide perceptual gap to be bridged. It might help to remember that in social life people who consistently complain about being misunderstood, misinterpreted and mistrusted are not only boring but usually have primarily themselves to blame.

Meanwhile there is an aspect of the problem which is not mentioned in the Nato communiqué but deserves attention. East-West trade was generally promoted in the West as a constituent part of détente in the hope that it would foster interdependence and go hand in hand with arms control, which would help shift emphasis in the communist countries from defence budgets to the needs of the consumer. These assumptions have so far been disappointed, with the result that the West is providing considerable economic aid to the Warsaw Pact in the form of credits and technology which contribute—mostly indirectly by releasing resources—to the defence effort which causes so much concern. It is coming to be time to examine whether the growth of this trade should be linked in some degree with progress towards arms limitation.

THE CANNIBAL BISCUIT

In the last century there is supposed to have been a lady who arranged the books in her library on a systematic basis unknown to John Evelyn. Alphabetical principles were observed only so long as they did not require books by male and female authors to rub shoulders (a notion which she herself, it is said, was made or Mr and Mrs Browning and their authors who had been married to one another. The motive was propriety: there is no reason to think that she supposed the usual tendency of books to multiply beyond the capacity of the shelving provided or that she was due to interbreed. The idea of inconceivable vortices combining the qualities of Eliot (G) and Eliot (T. S.), terms and -stowe (Harriet Beecher), or Keats and Krupsaya did not dismay her. Even individuals as dour as she usually retain a bottom of good sense.

Not so commissars. Not so the Food Standards Committee. In its latest report it asserts that the digestive biscuit is misleadingly named. To justify its name, said the committee's chairman, Professor Alan Ward, yesterday, the biscuit should have the power of digesting itself. Unless it could be shown to do so, the name should be banned.

Cannibalism among biscuits is admittedly rare, let alone auto-cannibalism. But the purchaser who actually goes out in search of a cannibal biscuit—the only one likely to be disappointed by this interpretation of the name—must be still rarer. Open the packet at bedtime and half of them might be gone if they were believed to feed on themselves. People would surely begin to have fears for the peckishness. A hungry biscuit, the last on the plate, could easily slip under a locked door and digest Aunt Charlotte while she slept.

In fact "digestive" does not simply mean self-digesting, and never has. The Food Standards Committee would have been on better ground if instead of toying with ideas of confectionery inside it had squarely rested its case on the fact that the word's original sense in English was "promoting or aiding digestion". When Chaucer's Chauntecler wakes up shuddering after a nightmare in which he has been carried off by a terrifying monster which he does not recognize, but which can easily be recognized by the reader as the Food Standards Committee, his wife diagnoses an upset stomach and recommends laxatives and "digestives" (the original recipe is no longer precisely followed, incidentally). It is idle to deny

that the biscuit was named in Victorian times with a view to encouraging people to think that it did them good. The manufacturers make no claim to medicinal virtues today and it is unlikely that many buyers make the connexion at all.

For the word is moribund in everyday usage except with reference to biscuits. "Doctor, I need a digestive." "Madam, I am not a supermarket." Dictionaries do not acknowledge this development yet, though they take note of many similar ones. Still, they contain enough shades of meaning for the word in question, to confound the Food Standards Committee. "Characterized by bearing without resistance or in silence" (O.E.D.). Who has ever heard a biscuit cry out against its fate? That definition is stigmatized as obsolete, though. But what about "pertaining to digestion"? (O.E.D.) How can a food not pertain to digestion? And, finally, simply, "digestible" (O.E.D. again). It would take a jaundiced critic to deny that. The committee can only make out a convincing case if they are prepared to claim that the digestive is literally indigestible. And if they dare to try that, they all deserve to be thrown to the biscuits.

remote from the genuine feelings of Conservatism, which the NUS is supposed to represent. In general, and this is a situation which can only damage the Conservative Party. Yours faithfully, DAVID SOKIN, President, Oxford University Conservative Association, 29 Stan Rise, Eton College Road, NW3, May 7.

Preserving the British archive

From Dr Michael Howard, FBA
Sir, I hope that the weight of the evidence and of the arguments brought forward by Professor Margaret Gowing and your other correspondents will by now have made it clear to your readers that the problem of the public archives is a great deal more serious than the Lord Chancellor would have us believe. Like Professor Gowing I have enjoyed, as an "official historian", privileged access to public records. Sir, your access only enables one to see more clearly the inadequacy of the existing system of accumulating, cataloguing and "weeding" archives in ministries before they pass into the skilled hands of the Public Records Office. To penetrate beyond the smooth laws and gravelled paths of the PRO to the ministerial archives themselves is to find oneself in primeval jungle. In the Foreign and Cabinet Office, arrangements are of course admirable, but in other departments there are simply not enough people to care for the records, and those who are available only too often lack the training which is now essential for the adequate custody of computerized data. This, I am afraid, is particularly true of the enormous amount of material engendered by the Ministry of Defence.

The difference between the situation here and that in the United States is painful. There a single Public Archives Service, staffed by trained professionals, is responsible for the care of documents both in government ministries and in public archives. It is they who are responsible, under governmental directives, for "weeding" and declassification. They are therefore able to provide continuous care for archives from the moment of their formation until their disposal to the general public. The service no doubt has its own disadvantages, but as a model it has everything to recommend it above our own dichotomy between, on the one hand, "classified" documents, the custody of which is left to unqualified officials and on the other "open" documents cared for by trained archivists in the PRO.

I hope therefore that you will keep up your pressure for an enquiry into the whole question of the care and custody of public records as a matter of urgency. The acquisition of the existing arrangements will become increasingly evident as the records of the past 30 years become available for public inspection, but by then it will be too late. The problem is one to be solved not so much by spending more money as by making a more careful use of the resources we have. Yours faithfully, MICHAEL HOWARD, All Souls College, Oxford, May 9.

Who owns the farmland?

From Mr Roderick Thomson
Sir, Xenophobia seems to be creeping in at the edges of the land ownership question in Britain. Land owners are, for the most part, free market people; they greedily benefit from an unregulated market in land as sellers. As buyers, we may now be facing the situation Italians and Portuguese found themselves in during the latter half of the nineteenth century: potential buyers of surplus land to be sold because of the pace of the market have become too hot; nationalities selling out to foreigners in force majeure.

Nothing, of course, turns out quite as one might expect. There is no evidence, for instance, that Arabs or Germans will be careless about land management and desertification. The "Agribusiness", as Mr J. M. Hunter (May 9) calls the ruthless exploitation of land whatever the visual or social consequences, is already well under way throughout southern England—and English owners and tenant managers are imposing it.

We may well come to a time when foreign owners become restorers of neglected architecture and, say, large scale tree planters. The record of British landowners in their own country is not so impressive, shall one say, a mixed picture. Yours faithfully, RODERICK THOMSON, Army & Navy Club, Pall Mall, SW1, May 9.

Solar energy

From Mr David Garnett
From Mr David Garnett
Sir, Time has made most of the Great Thinkers who have denied the Scientists' look foolish to the student. The young Mr Laqua was particularly remarkable in imagining absurdities which have since been proved to be commonplace truths. When he sat warming himself before his fire, mocking the scientist who had spent eight years trying to extract sunshine out of cucumbers, he was unaware that his flames were sunbeams that is the solar energy which is stored by every green vegetable that grows and on which animal life has up till now been dependent.

But in your issue of April 23, which has just reached me, you record one of the greatest discoveries that man's fellow workers have found a method of storing solar energy, which enables it to be transported to wherever power is needed. It is typical of our crazy world that Dr Carden's researches, which could, and let us hope will, change the world, should be hampered for lack of money while the governments spend millions on the construction of nuclear power stations, as Lord Rothschild pointed out in your issue of November 27 last, are creating vast quantities of the most deadly poisonous products which cannot be destroyed and imperil the distant future of mankind. Yours sincerely, DAVID GARNETT, Le Vagier de Charty, Montcuq 46800, France, April 27.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Balanced reporting of racial issues

From the Chairman of the Community Relations Council

Sir, Your editorial entitled "Keeping the balance on race" (May 9) is welcome as a serious and careful discussion of the main issues raised in the Community Relations Council's recently published Memorandum on reporting on race and of the Press Council's reply. We agree in particular with your point that many of the criticisms of newspapers' handling of reports which mislead because they lack a broader context; or of careless propagation of spurious rumour; are considerations which apply to news in general, but which apply with particular force to the reporting of race relations.

It is, however, important to clear up one misunderstanding which appears to have arisen partly from the Press Council's reply to our Memorandum, which was also reported by you. We do not ask for facts to be "swept out of sight", nor do we express the view that newspapers should publish only "neutral" news and seldom had news. The emphasis of our Memorandum is that editors and journalists should pay particular attention to their traditional responsibility to report accurately and objectively. In this we would in no way differ from you in your stated view that the only point at issue among young black people are reported is the accuracy of the evidence itself, and of course the accuracy of the report.

Plea changes

From the Chairman of the Bar

Sir, In his balanced article on page four of The Times of May 10 about a suggestion that some barristers had improperly persuaded their clients to plead guilty, your Legal Correspondent described the report in which the suggestion is made as a "spin-off from a larger research project" which could be taken to suggest that the report, and the "survey" on which it is based, is itself a piece of research. In the summary of the article on page one it was stated that "the report is to be published in the summer, in spite of opposition from the Bar Council on the ground of public interest".

The only opposition which the Bar Council has expressed to the publication of the report (and I quote from my letter to the Home Office to which the article refers) was in these terms: "that it would be dangerous and misleading if the book in its present form was to be published as a piece of research, with less of research published with the authority of the Home Office". This opposition was expressed because, in the view of the Bar Council, and in the publicly expressed opinion of the President of the Law Society, a report which depends for its substance on the unchecked complaints of convicted criminals cannot possibly be described as "research", particularly when it lacks any of the safeguards which would have been required if any weight was to be given to it (amongst other deficiencies, despite our request none of the complaints has ever been put to any of the barristers concerned nor have their

One of our recommendations is that editors should examine their editorial policy in order to ensure that the style and content of their reporting on race relations issues does not encourage or reinforce racial hatred and hostility.

A timely reminder that this happens is provided by Mr Justice Neil Lawson who is reported as saying on Monday of this week that the police faced a very dangerous situation in Southall last summer, "partly owing to the way the matter was distorted in various sections of the media". He said that public opinion given to a fight had been "a horrifying character" and had borne absolutely no relationship to the facts of the case as he and the jury had heard them in evidence. (Guardian, May 10, 1977).

This is basically a plea for editors to avoid sensationalism, misrepresentation and inaccuracy. But it is not as obvious a plea as it sounds: during the Community Relations Council's existence we have seen many examples of inaccurate and biased reporting, whether through carelessness or intention. These are in our view a luxury which is undesirable on any issue, but in the issues relating to race can create long-lasting damage to community relations.

Yours sincerely, PITT OF HAMPSHIRE, Community Relations Council, 15/16 Bedford Street, WC2, May 10.

evidence or comments on the complaints been obtained). The "case" against these barristers, none of whom has been identified, depends on apparently confidential and uncorroborated information given to their interviewers by a number of anonymous persons, many of them recidivists, who had been convicted of the offences in question on their own confession.

This is not, however, to belittle the seriousness of the allegations; as I said in my letter to the Home Office after the sentence which I have quoted above: "At the same time, some of the allegations made to and by the authors are disturbing, and should unquestionably be investigated before memories become quite stale."

Unfortunately this investigation may now be impossible, because (according to the authors, and I quote them) of "severe difficulties in tracing the defendants". It seems, therefore, that it is now late either to seek confirmation of the complaints or to put them to those against whom they were made; and, because of the same difficulties, it is apparently impossible to comply with the Bar Council's request that the defence should be given the opportunity of their rights to appeal against their convictions and to make formal complaints against the barristers concerned—rights which could, should, have been exercised if, or to the extent that, the complaints were well founded. Yours faithfully, PETER WEBSTER, The Senate of the Inns of Court and the Bar, 11 South Square, Gray's Inn, WCL.

The Lib-Lab pact

From Lord Gladwyn

Sir, As one of George Hutchinson's "accomplices" (May 7), may I say that, even if not in the interests of the present political situation, the deal to be seen—the Steel-Callaghan deal is certainly in the interests of the nation?

The recent poor showing of Labour and Liberal candidates was primarily due to the mood of the electorate which resembles that of the pre-war Italian peasant who used to mutter "Piove, governo ladro" ("It's raining—bloody government"). Prices are going up, so obviously must be the fault of our present rulers, turn them out and all will be well.

The idea that the Government may be tight in its policy of wage restraint to contain inflation, which the police might reduce unemployment, but censorship would also, as in war, have to be applied, and liberty would fly out of the window. Few seem to think that all this is a possibility. Unfortunately, it is. Yours faithfully, GLADWYN, House of Lords.

Washington's ancestors

From Mr Peter Wahne

Sir, With respect to Mr Llewellyn (The Times, May 5), John Washington, great-grandfather of the first President of the United States, did not emigrate to Virginia from Essex around 1656-57. He emigrated from Tries in Hertfordshire, where he lived with his mother, Amphylia, and his two brothers and three sisters at the home of Amphylia's stepfather, Andrew Knowling, after the execution of his father, the Reverend Lawrence, from whom the family name was derived. The Reverend Lawrence was a Puritan, and in 1642 the miserably poor living of Little Brexet could not support so large a family and the intervening decade until the Reverend Lawrence Washington's death in January, 1653, can only have been made tolerable for the young Washingtons and their mother by the compassion of Andrew Knowling.

George Washington was ignorant of his immediate English ancestor's origins but knew of his remote northern ancestry by oral tradition within the family. Without the evidence of the Tries memorial court rolls and parish registers (in which the baptisms of three of the children are recorded including that of the younger Lawrence), the will and connected probate documents of Andrew Knowling preserved in the records of a Hertfordshire ecclesiastical court and the inventory, dated 1677, of the English estate in Tries held at the time of his death by Lawrence Washington "dying in Virginia but late of Luton in the county of Bedford", now in the Public Record Office, the links between the Washingtons of England and America might remain unproven still.

Without their solid Hertfordshire foundations, the shrines at Sufgrave Manor and Washington would rest upon insubstantial, shifting sands. Tries deserves the due recognition of its place of honour, not just its primacy in the Washington story of which, unhappily, it was deprived in Mr Llewellyn's article.

It is just assumed that the simple replacement of Mr Callaghan and Mr Healey by Mrs Thatcher and (?) Sir Keith Joseph will somehow in itself do the trick.

It would not do the trick. If the present policy of wage restraint crumbles it will not be the Tory Party that will pick up the billy. We should either have to rally round a national government, based on an overwhelming Parliamentary majority and capable of taking and enforcing decisions involving a further fall in the standard of living and in social services (which seems unlikely), or we should have to accept a form of non-parliamentary dictatorship.

I suspect that the electorate would not greatly care for this last solution. Rationing, indeed, and the development of the armed forces and the police might reduce unemployment, but censorship would also, as in war, have to be applied, and liberty would fly out of the window. Few seem to think that all this is a possibility. Unfortunately, it is. Yours faithfully, GLADWYN, House of Lords.

Pocketed hands

From Mr Dhiren Bhagat

Sir, Your correspondent, Mr Hutchinson is at a loss to understand why an increasing number of men walk with their hands in their pockets (May 7). Perhaps T. S. Eliot's observations of the 30s depression can provide an answer to Mr Hutchinson's bewilderment of the 70s. In the first chorus of "The Rock" (1934) the voices of the workmen thus: "No man has hired us. With pocketed hands And lowered heads We stood about in open places And shivered in bleak rooms. In this land No man has hired us. Our life is unbecome, our death Unmentioned in 'The Times'. Unwittingly though it may be, at least their lives have been mentioned now."

Yours faithfully, DEHREN BHAGAT, 19 Mornington Walk, Ham, Richmond, May 10.

Newspapers in London

From Mr Tom Baistow

Sir, Mr Lawrence Cadbury must not be allowed to try to save his conscience publicly with such a whitewash (Letters May 10) of his "merger" of the News Chronicle and Star with Lord Rothermere's Daily Mail and Evening News—ie, the shutting down of two liberal newspapers and the sale of their titles to a Tory group.

For one thing, his boast about the "successful" shareout of compensation to his employees rings oddly in the ears of those—many of whom had been all their life with the firm—who received only a few days' pay for each year of service because he and fellow directors had failed, characteristically, to foresee that some shareholders might want their money back. The eventual miserable pay-off was, ironically, in keeping with the NC's tradition of paying its journalists less well than its Fleet Street rivals because they preferred its relatively enlightened editorial policies: they usually managed to keep its line Lefish despite Mr Cadbury's right wing views.

For another, Mr Cadbury's decision to shut baffled such shrewd newspaper proprietors as Lord (then Mr Roy) Thomson, As chairman of the action group formed by members of the journalistic staff to try to establish a new paper in the News Chronicle's mould, I went with some colleagues to discuss a proposal with Thomson, who at that time had spare printing capacity. I shall never forget his opening remarks (which I paraphrase): "I'm amazed that you, with all his money, Cadbury has sold out. The Chronicle had a good sector of the market if he'd only known what to do about it. . . . There was nothing wrong with the papers that good management couldn't have put right." Nor Thomson offered us helpful advice and a generous cut-rate deal that included editorial accommodation, communications and printing if we could raise £21-3m to fund our proposed paper's first year. We did not, of course, raise the money. It was a pity, because one of our first big feature articles would have been: "Why did Cadbury sell out?"

Yours faithfully, TOM BAISTOW, The Saville Club, 69 Brook Street, W1, May 10.

From Mr Hall Parke
Sir I refer to the letter you print from Mr L. I. in your issue today (May 10).

I was the shareholder referred to therein and my interests as a shareholder were precisely similar to shareholder members of the Cadbury family. I was not consulted as to disposal of the funds and I know not why. It is my opinion that had consultation taken place instead of presenting me, a shareholder, with a proposed fait accompli, litigation would have been avoided to the benefit of both unions and shareholders.

Yours faithfully, RALL PARKE, The Hall Farm, Kineton, Warwick, May 10.

British citizenship

From Mr Stephen Hughes-Jones

Sir, If Britain is formally to have two classes of citizenship (as in practice it does now), there must be (as there is not now) a means for the second class citizen to become a first class one.

Born in Egypt, though totally British, I had sometimes found my British passport worth little more than a piece of blue cardboard. Reckoning that my son, born in India, would have worse trouble of this sort; and that any child of his born abroad would probably be excluded from Britain altogether; I proposed to the Home Office that they should register my son as a British citizen (which would enable him to pass on genuine, not subsidiary, citizenship).

They refused, replying, correctly, that he was already British by descent. I answered that it was strange that a complete alien could acquire full citizenship, by naturalisation, but a toasty British child, who like myself, had spent virtually all his nine-year life here, could not.

They were unmoved—and indeed caught me with a superb bureaucratic backhand, pointing out that some of the advantages I had hoped registration would bring me were only available to those who became British thereby, and he was British already.

This absurdity, that an alien can acquire full rights, but a British subject, born here, British and however long his residence here, cannot, could be largely cured tomorrow by a change in administrative practice. The recent "green paper" appears not to discuss it; but any new nationality legislation should surely cure it, and fully—above all if the Government sticks to its belief (para 16 of the green paper) that citizenship by descent should not pass beyond the first generation born abroad.

Yours truly, STEPHEN HUGHES-JONES, 49 Canonbury Park North, N1.

Sky high

From Mrs Elise Hackett

Sir, This may be of interest to some of your readers and shows the terrible growth of the present day inflation. In 1935, as Elise Barry, I flew in the King's Cup Air Race and Lyons Corner House printed a little piece about me on the back of their menu card. The most expensive item on it was a mixed grill consisting of a cuvier, sausage, bacon and tomato and the price was 2d. I found the card by pure chance among some old press cuttings while turning out a cupboard.

Yours truly, ELISE HACKETT, Blingbear Lodge, Whitingham, Berkshire, May 7.

Conservative students

From Mr David Soskin

Sir, Writing as one who has attended both NUS and FCS conferences, I wish to applaud Ronald Butt's article (May 5).

If the FCS has a role, it should be to encourage support for the conservative Party in the universities and colleges, and certainly not to believe, as the NUS, which does

nothing but harm to the "student cause", nor can the nature of the NUS ever change for it will always remain the forum of the students who consider that their activism to be more important than the personal interests of their studies.

The current FCS leadership is palpably more concerned with philosophical daydreaming than the practical realities of everyday life. It would appear that the outside

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Fashion in New York

by Prudence Glynn



Two designers who have been showing in America and whose dresses are currently available in the Design Room at Selfridges.

Right: A jacket, skirt and top in pure silk in blue with fine blue embroidery on the top, by Salvador at £187.

Far left: A red cotton crepon dress by Janice Wainwright which costs £77.

Left: Salvador's bright yellow jersey dress which comes with trousers at £126 and can also be bought without them for £72.

Pictures: Harry Katz



Trans-Atlantic fashion lessons for Britain

Of the many criticisms levelled at us as a nation one of the few that has seemed to me from first hand experience to have validity is that we are weak on follow-through. The way to hell is paved with good intentions (and British good manners) the way to bankruptcy is paved with British intentions which are then taken up elsewhere.

Thus having last week indulged in the fun and pleasure of visiting New York again, it behoves me to rehearse now the lessons to be learned by our fashion industry from the trip. There are a lot more outward fashion missions lodged under the Clothing Export Council and the British Overseas Trade Board's wings, and there is a whole month of the *Britannica* in the *Au Printemps* stores in France from mid-September, and you know how sharp the French can be.

When the thirteen designers under the umbrella of the London Designer Collections arrived in New York—a further five excellent names were out there too under other patronages—it was the first bloc manifestation of British quality fashion since the 'sixties, which was not quality anyway, but cheap, highstyle Carnaby Street image.

We certainly loved America in the sixties but it was a Pyrrhic victory. It did show the new imagination and verve and freshness of British fashion design, it did in the short term gain us a lot of valuable orders and enable a few very perceptive buyers to recognize that here was a truly alternative look to those of Paris or Italy, it did even get behind the swirling scenes and find a little professionalism. It was hard to find for there was no follow-through. The backlash of that last invasion was a reputation for bad fit, bad finish, bad deliveries (if any) and a cheapness which nobody who valued social conscience or any political sense about Britain's welfare state commitments should have banked on.

As it happens, we are still cheap, in American terms, but that is because of devaluation and the quicker we can float one of these better. The fact is that we do not need to be cheap to attract buyers because we can now offer precisely what the fashion market at the discriminating level wants. Ten years ago Geraldine Stutz was sure that the growth area on fashion was quality married to individuality; lots and lots of small, special talents doing clothes with which a certain woman could identify very personally. She built her store, Bendels, around her conviction, and discovered as a promising head British, with its art college boom and growing conviction in the young that small was right.

"The thing with the British designers," says Ms Stutz, "is that they look at the market and they say, OK, there are lots of people who are not going to like what I'm doing, but there are quite a number who will, and I would rather make what I want to make than compromise." Knowing this attitude so well I myself cannot help worrying at a certain touch of arrogance in our approach to precious markets, but, as always it seems, we have been saved by the tide of events. Fashion at this time is entirely in search of an individual conviction.

America is, of course, an ideal market for British talent if we can marry our lack of compromise—which they like—to a little more professionalism. The country is, after all enormous—however high priced or individual the clothes, stretched across all those states, many of the size of other countries, there is a magnificent potential of wearers. Peter Reger told me that a bra in Spain and lace and of

inimitable shape will retail for £35 in the United States, nevertheless the Rogers were selling them as if the women's liberation holocaust had never been.

Virtually all the London Designer Collection group merchandise was subject to very high import duty because it came under the heading of "non-functional trim", as the heads were not actually crucial, though as a matter of fact in many cases they were for decency. I do long to know what constitutes "non-functional trim". It is one of those lovely official jargon phrases no-one quite understands. I mean, at what point below it do you get arrested?

Another move in the right direction for British fashion is that the dominance of the stores has been somewhat eroded at last by the appearance of small, individual shops, many of them owned by former employees of big stores. This marks a departure in American retailing and Madison Avenue is where it is all at in New York. Such shops suit the specialist handworking and limited production desires of British companies.

The British group showed at a brand new venue called Penn Plaza, next door to Madison Square Garden and smack on 7th (fashion) Avenue. The space they took is rented for five years by a Mr Roberts and was available, since this is a new complex, at a more reasonable cost. The arrangements were neat and cool, it was possible to see the whole group comfortably, and no-one had any complaints about the organization. On receipt of the Clothing Export Council's blessing for the venture, the British Overseas Trade Board supported the London Designer Collection, a non-profit making organization therefore appropriate as a sponsor for such a lavish use of public funds (when is someone going to do a collection in red tape?).

The real instigator of this British show was Eric Hall, managing director and owner of the London Designer Collection, and owner of the London Designer Collection, a non-profit making organization therefore appropriate as a sponsor for such a lavish use of public funds (when is someone going to do a collection in red tape?).

Eric West has been to and from New York several times at his own expense to set up the latest visit and to make contacts. Only \$15,000 could be allocated for pre-publicity—crucial when you plan to show during Market Week Two, "couture week" in the New York calendar. I think the timing was right. But we have been left with the provocative suggestion from Mrs Menzies of Bergdorf's that Britain should show in Europe between Milan and Paris. Even if buyers were not committed, it would kill any idea that we follow the French, and also buyers would come back, if they needed, less tired and with budgets more open than now when they hit the London and Birmingham market last of all. Bergdorf's is certainly making fashion running just now, having revived what was popularly thought to be the corpse of French haute couture by selling Givenchy and equally stellar priced original models again. Ninety-five per cent of the numbers were reserved before the show was ever staged in New York.

Bill Gibb is thinking of a shop in New York. Peter Reger has formed a corporation over there. Eric West has taken an apartment and hopes to set up a permanent London Designer Collection office in New York. The French stage a massive, government backed presence here, so do the Italians. We have begun modestly, but with plenty of buyers and plenty of the right publicity.

Concluded



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§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

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Taking stock
of the
Chiasso affair,
page 27

Saudis may demand bigger say in IMF affairs as price for vital contribution

By David Blak

Economic Correspondent
There is a growing conviction in international monetary circles that a much bigger say in the International Monetary Fund will be the price that Saudi Arabia will demand for making a major contribution to the \$16,000m scheme being proposed by the Fund's managing director.

Saudi involvement is vital to the success of the proposal, aimed at giving the Fund enough money to deal with the increasing demands placed on it from countries needing to borrow to cover balance-of-payments problems.

A little-noticed remark by President Carter at the end of the Downing Street summit may indicate that the United States is prepared to consider any Saudi request.

The Saudis are thought to be saying that if the Western nations want to receive a substantial Saudi contribution there will have to be a rethink on the share-out of votes within the Fund to end the present situation where Saudi Arabia and the other rich members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries have practically no say.

Voting in the Fund is based on "quotas" and the Opec nations have only 5 per cent. This is being increased to 10 per cent on the present round of quota revisions being ratified.

The Saudis are thought to want votes of their own—they have none at present—and they also have a seat on the board of executive directors which runs the Fund on a day-to-day basis.

At the moment they are represented by a Syrian delegate. An indication of American openness to the Saudi demand may have been contained in President Carter's remarks in the Banqueting House in London on Sunday, when he welcomed the attitudes of the Saudis "who want to participate with us in making decisions commensurate with their own economic influence".

This would seem to suggest that the United States is coming round to the view that consideration should be given to restructuring the voting system in the IMF as part of some future revision of quotas.

These are at present heavily skewed in favour of those countries which were economically powerful when the Fund was set up.

The United States has the largest quota, with about 18 per cent of the votes, followed by the United Kingdom, which has 7.49 per cent now and will have 6.99 per cent after the latest quota revision is agreed.

The Saudis are thought to feel that it is wrong that the United Kingdom, for example, should have heavy voting rights while the oil producers who

are being asked to put up funds are effectively unrepresented.

Many European countries, such as Germany, accept that the present voting structure is anachronistic. The Germans feel that they themselves are under-represented. But any attempt to link a revision of quotas with the scheme of Dr Witteveen, the managing director, could risk putting the whole plan in jeopardy.

Countries which now have big quotas would have to lose some power.

One of the attractions to a number of western countries has been the prospect of getting Saudi money and a source of Saudi involvement without the reality of Saudi control over where the money goes.

That is why the Witteveen scheme is effectively sealed off from any voting participation in the Fund and why there have been assurances that the countries putting up cash would have no special rights in deciding who would get it.

This issue is of more than theoretical or ideological importance. The Saudis have indicated that they feel developing countries should be the recipients from any major new fund, while the West is worried about the range of countries on the fringe of the Mediterranean and some other semi-industrial nations which have made heavy borrowings.

Aid policies questioned, page 25

Labour goes ahead with draft plan for state banks

By Our Political Correspondent

Although Mr Callaghan has told the Labour Party that he thinks a commitment to nationalise the banks and leading insurance companies would be "an electoral albatross", the party's Home Policy Committee, of which Mr Benn, the Secretary of State for Energy, is chairman, is pressing on with the preparation of a draft statement. This could be included in Labour's next programme.

It is still based on the drastic plan included in the conference resolution passed by the party conference last October, in spite of the hesitations and reservations voiced by the National Union of Bank Employees and workers in insurance companies.

Mr Benn is now consulting them about the detailed proposals, and hopes to win them round.

According to party officials a document entitled Policy on Banking and Finance, which was submitted some time ago to the party's finance and economic affairs committee, is "out of date and no longer under discussion".

In the document, prepared by the party's own researchers, it was emphasized that the policy makers must take full account of the views of banking and insurance workers.

When the banks nationalisation plan was under discussion in October, the National Executive of the party recommended that there should be an amalgamation of the Giro and National Savings as the nucleus of a state bank. Mr Callaghan said he was ready to consider such a scheme.

This is still under discussion, but members of the home policy committee think that much more fundamental changes are required.

Paul Routledge writes: TUC leaders yesterday approved a plan to set up a top-level agency to channel state and private funds into manufacturing industry at the rate of £1,000m a year.

The proposal, disclosed in *Business News* yesterday, is contained in a submission of evidence to the Wilson Committee inquiring into the City. In a brief statement, the TUC said its influential Economic Committee had endorsed the submission.

Further evidence on the supervision, regulation and ownership of financial institutions, "as a later stage".

The TUC's first bulk document for Sir Harold Wilson's consideration, concentrates on "priority issues" of funds for investment and urges the committee of inquiry to make an interim statement on the need for more capital for manufacturing.

Unions are looking for a tripartite Standing Committee on Finance For Investment, comprising Government, TUC and employers' representatives to direct cash from North Sea oil profits, the insurance companies and the pension funds, into job-creating industry.

The TUC argues that the £1,000m for the new agency should come from public and private sources, with "at least half" from the latter.

Boots' £14m Louisiana purchase will expand market in 18 states

By Nicholas Hirst

The Boots Company has reached agreement to buy its first company in the United States with a £14.5m cash offer for the Rucker Pharmaceutical Company of Louisiana.

The offer is conditional on the agreement of Rucker's stockholders—its shares are traded in the over-the-counter market—but with the Rucker family owning 35 per cent of the equity success is practically assured.

The new expansion by Boots whose chairman is Dr Gordon Hobday, follows a wave of recent acquisitions of assets in the United States by United Kingdom companies. Only two months ago Beecham, Boots rival in the unsuccessful battle for Glaxo five years ago, was acquired by the United States by a £48m acquisition of Calgon, a consumer products group. Beecham had already made a pharmaceutical acquisition in the United States in 1971 with its \$55m acquisition of Massengill.

Compared with the Beecham

acquisitions Boots' plans are relatively modest, although it follows the pattern of the company's overseas expansion plans, balancing the recent ventures on the Continent.

Rucker, which manufactures and markets prescription products in 18 American states, is increasing its earnings this year, with profits after tax for the nine months to March up 165 per cent at \$1,251,000. In the whole of the previous year it earned \$1.52m on sales of \$5.3m.

Rucker will be able to sell all Boots drugs passed by the United States authorities, including the highly successful anti-heumatic agent Brufen, which under the Motrin label accounted for the vast majority of the £4.6m sales of Boots products in the United States last year.

Brufen is marketed there under an agreement with the American group, Upjohn, and although the arrangement will continue, Rucker will naturally become a competitor.

Financial Editor, page 27



Dr Gordon Hobday: riding the expansion wave.

Signal goes out to check MLR decline

By John Whitmore

Financial Correspondent
The Bank of England yesterday sent out a signal to check the decline in the money market.

The Bank of England yesterday sent out a signal to check the decline in the money market. The signal is clearly designed to discourage too sharp a fall in the yields on Treasury bills and resultant pressure for the Bank to drop MLR, now standing at 84 per cent below the 8 per cent level.

Whether or not the Bank will wish to repeat last week's exercise of forcing the discount market to borrow at MLR for a week on two successive days remains to be seen. But the opportunity to do so may be there today. A £200m call on the paraspaid Exchequer 94 per cent 1982 stock falls due, and this could leave the discount market facing a shortage of funds.

The signal is, however, believed to be committed to referring any settlement terms after negotiations but before any deal is completed.

BSAC announced yesterday that it intends to put a resolution before the annual meeting in Glasgow on June 10 to the effect that "no action be taken by the board of directors or by the company to settle or compromise the proceedings commenced by the company against the Governor and company of the Bank of England arising out of the purported sale of the company's holding in BP in January 1975 . . . without first obtaining the prior approval of the members of the company in general meeting".

The Action Group aims to ensure that the maximum possible say is given to the shareholders. BSAC believes that, whatever its constitution, the Board has relinquished its right to deal in the BP stake as a matter "exclusively within the board's competence", and thus requires the board to expose any alternative that might be offered by way of settlement for discussion and approval.

It is thought that although the board and BSAC are in agreement on the need for full shareholder approval before any deal is finally settled, Mr Alastair Down, the BSAC chairman, and his colleagues are concerned that the wording of the BSAC resolution would inhibit the board's manoeuvrability in any bargaining that a satisfactory settlement with the Bank of England might entail.

Burmah rejects action group's call over BP

By Ray Maughan

A call from the Burmah Shareholders Action Group for complete shareholder approval before any negotiation with the Bank of England regarding the BP stake is understood to have been rejected by the Burmah board on the grounds that its bargaining position would be impaired.

The board is, however, believed to be committed to referring any settlement terms after negotiations but before any deal is completed.

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Credit card conflict in the petrol forecourts

By Ray Maughan

Since the petrol price discounting battle intensified in March, 1976, more than 1,200 garages have ceased to offer credit card facilities to their customers.

Barclaycard said yesterday that it had withdrawn franchises from 800 outlets during the period. Access acknowledges that in the past six months it has discontinued 350 franchises, while other garage proprietors have resigned from the scheme.

These facts came to light in the wake of speculation that the Director-General of Fair Trading may soon refer credit card franchising to the Monopolies Commission for investigation. Yesterday the Office of Fair Trading would only say that the position was unchanged from that in January.

Then, Mr John Fraser, Minister of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, told Parliament that the director-general was examining the possibility of referring the credit card companies to the Commission.

Credit card transactions account for only 12 per cent of all transactions, but in the petrol market they can be used for up to 50 per cent of all sales.

Since the discounting war began many petrol retailers, notably the independents, have attempted to introduce differential pricing structures with credit card customers paying slightly more than those offering cash.

By so doing they have ignored a clause in both Access and Barclaycard contracts which demands that cardholders be offered the same terms as cash customers.

The Motor Agents Association argues that this clause means that petrol margins are so low, retailers are having to raise prices to all customers to meet payments to the card companies, now 3 per cent of the purchase price. This means, it says, that cash customers are saving at the expense of those paying by credit card.

At present, the cost to a garage owner on an 80p gallon is 2.3p, and at that price level, the MAA says, its total profit is only about 3p on a cash sale. Since the 1973 oil crisis the pattern of the oil industry has changed, and retail margins have been greatly slimmed, especially for independent operators. Barclaycard says that most of the big oil companies and retail chains have said they and their tenants will honour the condition of sale agreements.

Both Barclaycard and Access claim that they have no difficulty in placing a discounted petrol franchise in other hands. Barclaycard says that the petrol retailers acknowledge that if they had to introduce their own credit payment system it could cost between 8 and 12 per cent of the retail price rather than the 3 per cent levied by the card companies.

Card companies argue that the more petrol sold by the retailer, the bigger the discount command from his supplier.

Ronald Emler

'Laxity' at Credit Suisse HQ

From Alan McGregor

Geneva, May 11

Allegations that the Zurich head office of the Credit Suisse Bank was lax in supervision of the Chiasso branch, where losses could amount to £1,000m, Swiss francs (about £250m) were made today by Mr Serge Demieville, assistant general manager, who has resigned.

Mr Demieville, who was made responsible for supervising Chiasso from April 1 last year, said in a statement that two years ago the president of Credit Suisse general management committee, Dr Heinz Wulff—who also resigned yesterday together with Mr P. W. Schulchess, the honorary chairman—was advised of irregularities and "contentious business" with a repayment to Mr Ernst Kuhnle, the Chiasso manager, who is now under arrest.

He said a more thorough inquiry would have disclosed other lapses "but nobody took account of the indications, though there were indications that could have alerted those responsible".

The inquiry had been obstructed at branch level, Mr Demieville said.

It is expected to be some weeks before the full extent of the Chiasso loss can be established.

Union efforts to save Burton tailoring jobs

By Ronald Kerehaw

North Industrial Correspondent

Trade union leaders were last night trying to secure from the management of Burton, where more than 1,400 workers are to be declared redundant at Leeds and Lancashire plants, a promise that the company would remain "a major manufacturing force".

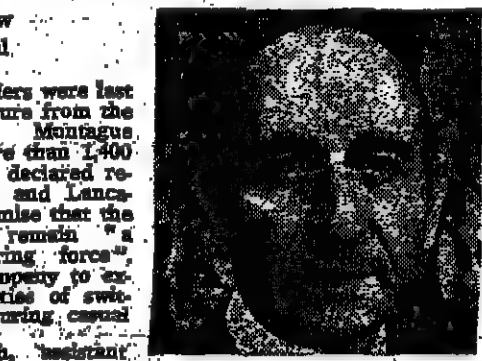
They want the company to "re-examine the possibilities of switching so manufacturing, casual work".

Mr Alec Smith, assistant secretary of the National Union of Tailors and Garment Workers, yesterday visited Burton's Leeds factory to talk to shop stewards from the factories at Leeds, Warrington, Wakefield, Bolton, Gillingham, Salford and Doncaster.

Afterwards he estimated there had been talk of a strike or work-in at the plants, but said that the alternative methods of saving jobs would take priority. These would include producing garments for the women's wear market—a field only touched upon by Burton companies in the past.

Mr Smith has asked for a meeting with Mr Cyril Spencer, chief executive of Burton group, and Mr Ralph Halpern, a group director, and this is likely to take place today.

It seems unlikely that the Burton management will be diverted from intentions of



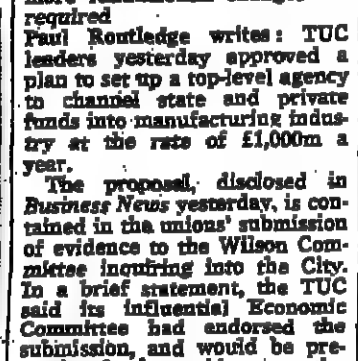
Mr Spencer: Likely to meet union leaders.

declaring redundancies and closing plants.

Mr Brian North, financial director of Burton, said in a radio interview yesterday that the company did not have the necessary skills to diversify to casual garments to employ those who would be declared redundant.

Another senior executive observed: "The only way these jobs can be saved is if somebody takes over the factories as going concerns."

A. W. Shakespeare writes: Shopfloor representatives and union officials gave a warning yesterday that Burton plans to make 650 workers redundant at its Warrington factory and 50 more at Wakefield and Bolton would meet with firm resistance.



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Bonn delays spending on fast-breeder development

From Peter Norman

Bonn, May 11

Dr Hans Matthöfer, the West German Minister for Science and Technology, has agreed to a temporary bar on the spending of DM122m (£30m) for research and development on the fast-breeder reactor.

A ministry spokesman said today that the Government still favoured the further development of the reactor type, but that Herr Matthöfer had agreed to the bar on further spending until certain questions concerning the reactor were settled. This followed an initiative by Social Democrat parliamentarians.

It is understood that spending already contracted for will not be affected. The questions to be resolved mainly involve safety risks associated with fast-breeder technology and the spread of the use of plutonium.

The Government's medium-term plan envisages spending DM227m on fast-breeder reactors. Meanwhile in Düsseldorf the Government of North Rhine-Westphalia today gave the go-ahead for development of what is claimed will be the largest brown coalfield in the world.

Between now and the early years of the next century it is estimated to mine 2,400 million tonnes of brown coal in the Hambach field, covering 85 square kilometres west of Cologne.

CBI sees talks with Liberals about Bullock

From Peter Norman

Bonn, May 11

Leaders of the Confederation of British Industry are to seek a meeting with the Liberals to discuss the Bullock report.

They are also asking for a meeting with the Prime Minister to press their view that the Government should produce only a Green Paper on its ideas for putting workers in boardrooms, while issuing a White Paper on participation below board level.

On Monday, after a meeting between a CBI delegation and Mr Dell, Secretary of State for Trade, it became clear that the appointment of worker director should be controlled by the unions.

The Liberals oppose the idea that the appointment of worker director should be controlled by the unions.

Between now and the early years of the next century it is estimated to mine 2,400 million tonnes of brown coal in the Hambach field, covering 85 square kilometres west of Cologne.

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Rome storm over state group break-up

From John Earle

Rome, May 11

A storm has broken over the disclosure by the Italian Government that it is having to allocate considerably increased sums to carry out the breakup of EGAM, the state mining and minerals corporation.

Perplexity is being expressed among parliamentarians over how the Government can exceed the limits on public spending laid down in its latest budget. It is the intention to put to the International Monetary Fund accompanying the grant of a \$530m standby credit.

When it was decided last month to liquidate EGAM and divide its companies between

IRI and ENI, the Government announced it was allocating 50,000m lire (£100m) this year and a total of 900,000m lire by 1982.

Now it has told parliament's budget commission that the operation will require 840,000m lire by the end of next March and a total estimated at 1,500,000m lire in coming years.

A government representative has indicated to members of parliament that the intention was to get round the commitment to the International Monetary Fund by making the money available now while accounting for it in future budgets.

Signor Giorgio La Malfa, the Republican Party's economic

spokesman in parliament, commented in the business news paper *L'Espresso* that it was an absurd and incredible decision for the Government to treble an allocation for expenditure without going into the numerous obscure points surrounding the matter.

He said he believed the final cost of suppressing EGAM would be about 2,000,000m lire, adding sarcastically: "I'd like to see Dr Witteveen's face when he hears to what purpose we are putting the IMF's money."

A Communist Party spokesman in the budget commission said the present minister, Signor Antonio Bisaglia, bore grave responsibility.

How the markets moved

The Times index: 185.28-3.03
The FT index: 456.6-7.0

Falls

Ass Dairies	10p to 28p
Beecham	8p to 42p
Costain A	9p to 20p
Dew G	7p to 18p
EMI	5p to 23p
Fisons	7p to 35p
Glaxo	12p to 48p
Harmony	12p to 32p
Harrison Cros	12p to 36p
Hawker Sid	12p to 65p

Rises

Aerlys	61p to 158p
BP	18p to 94p
Fisher J	6p to 12p
Gibbs A	4p to 45p

Equities succumbed to profit

Cut-edged securities were wanted at the long end. Dollar premium 120.75 per cent (effective rate 45.185 per cent). Sterling rose 5 pence to 51.713. The "effective devaluation" rate was 61.8 per cent.

Gold was unchanged at \$147.875

per ounce. SDR-£ was 1.16033 on Wednesday, while SDR-£ was 0.674728.

Commodities: Coffee prices again advanced. Reuters index was at 1580.1 (previous 1581.8).

Reports pages 28 and 31

THE POUND

Bank	buys	sells
Australia S	1.61	1.56
Austria Sch	30.25	28.25
Belgium Fr	64.25	62.25
Canada S	1.44	1.39
Denmark Kr	10.52	10.22
Finland Mk	7.20	6.95
France Fr	8.76	8.44
Germany Dm	4.25	4.08
Greece Dr	64.25	61.25
Hongkong \$	8.35	7.90
Italy Lr	154.00	149.00
Japan Yn	300.00	275.00
Netherlands Gld	4.42	4.29
Norway Kr	9.75	9.40
Portugal Esc	64.00	61.00
S Africa Rd	2.04	1.99
Spain Ptas	121.75	113.50
Sweden Kr	7.77	7.42
Switzerland Fr	4.52	4.30
US \$	1.76	1.71
Yugoslavia Dnr	33.25	31.00

On other pages

Business appointments	24
Appointments vacant	31
Bank Rates Table	31
Annual Statements	31
Anglo-American Corporation	29
Aquaculture	25

24 C. T. Bowring

24 C. T. Bowring	28 and 29
24 Hestair	27
31 J. Hewitt	27
31 Imperial Cold Storage	31
31 Miner Holdings	30
24 Royal Insurance	24
24 Telephone Rentals	28

28 and 29 Ultramar

Ultramar
 Mileover
 Garner Communications
 prospectuses :
 Sutton District Water
 Wrexham & East
 Denbighshire



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

At the 132nd Annual General Meeting of the Royal Insurance Company Limited, held on Wednesday, 11th May, in Liverpool, the Chairman Mr. Daniel Meinertzhagen made the following comments additional to his statement circulated with the Annual Report and Accounts.

As you will have seen, there was a substantial improvement in the underwriting results. Although conditions remained difficult in most parts of the world the underwriting loss in the United States was significantly reduced. Canada showed a marked improvement and Australia after the adverse results of recent years once more produced a profit. The United Kingdom incurred only a marginal underwriting loss in a year when the exceptional weather brought storm and subsidence claims totalling £123m just for private house property insurance. On behalf of stockholders I warmly congratulate everyone concerned, and particularly the management and staff, for what must, in the circumstances, be regarded as a considerable achievement. Much has yet to be done to restore underwriting profitability in some important areas but I can assure stockholders that we have within the Group the resolution and the skill necessary to achieve this objective.

The reduced underwriting loss combined with the increase in investment income yielded a net operating profit after taxation of over £50m and after the recommended final dividend some £28m is left for transfer to Retained Profits. This sounds, and indeed is, a very substantial sum but we must recognise that with the growth in premiums it was still not sufficient by itself to maintain the ratio of capital and free reserves to premium income at the previous year's level. With the help of substantial capital appreciation during the year our capital and free reserves rose to some £466m representing 42% of premium income and we are therefore still comfortably placed to finance further growth. Nevertheless, with market appreciation of the investment portfolio perhaps a less reliable factor than it used to be, the need is evident for insurers to be able to operate in an environment where they can earn and retain a more substantial margin of profit not only to keep up with inflation but to provide for future expansion in real terms.

Turning now to the current year, the figures for the 1st Quarter have just become available and are being released to the Press during the course of this meeting.

They show that we have made an encouraging start to the year with our total profit before tax increasing from £3.8m for the corresponding period a year ago to £27.4m now.

Investment income showed strong growth from £18.8m to £25.2m, with about a third of this growth being due to the effect of the fall in the value of sterling over the period and the correspondingly increased value to us of overseas income.

On the underwriting side we made a marginal profit of £1m as compared with a very substantial loss of £15.9m a year ago. As I told you at that time, approximately half of the £15.9m was attributable to exceptional storm damage, whereas this year we estimate that weather damage was, taking one country with another, reasonably normal, so that there has been, in fact, some improvement in the underlying trend, which is pleasing.

During the quarter we suffered underwriting losses in the U.S.A. and the Netherlands but earned underwriting profits in the U.K., Canada, Australia and overall in the rest of Europe and the Other Overseas territories.

In the U.S.A. the underwriting loss was reduced from £10m to £6.3m. The reduction would have been greater but for the fall in the value of sterling. The operating ratio fell from 109.9% to 104.2% and we are seeing increasing benefit flowing through from the better terms achieved in all classes of business in the last two years.

There has been no improvement yet in the Netherlands, where market conditions remain very difficult. We continue, however, to press forward with our plans to correct this unsatisfactory position.

Although one quarter is too short a period to take as a guide to the likely result for the year as a whole, I do want to stress that our aim remains to make profits on underwriting itself, not merely from the point of view of maintaining our financial strength but also because by the very nature of our business we need to earn sufficient in times that are relatively free from catastrophes to balance out the other times when catastrophic losses are severe.

The Report and Accounts were adopted and the payment of the final dividend for the year was approved. The election and re-election of directors and the re-appointment of the auditors was also approved.

The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Directors, Management, Staff and Agents proposed by Lt-Col. J. M. Harrison and seconded by Mr R. W. Johnson.

Estimated results for the three months ended 31st March, 1977

The estimated results for the three months ended 31st March, 1977, with comparative figures for the corresponding period in 1976 and for the full year 1976 are given below:—

	3 months to 31 Mar 1977	3 months to 31 Mar 1976	Year 1976
£m	£m	£m	£m
General Insurance:			
Premiums Written	315.0	239.5	1,091.8
Underwriting Result:			
U.S.A.	-6.3	-10.0	-18.1
Elsewhere	7.3	-5.9	0.3
	1.0	-15.9	-17.8
Long term insurance profits	0.4	0.4	1.7
Investment Income	25.2	18.8	92.4
Share of Associated Companies' profit	0.8	0.5	1.8
Total profit before taxation	27.4	3.8	78.1
Taxation	10.1	1.4	27.5
Minority Interests	0.1	0.0	0.4
Profit after taxation (p. per unit)	17.2	2.4	50.2
	(11.4p)	(1.6p)	(33.5p)
The operating ratios for the U.S.A. on the U.K. bases are:—			
Claims as % of earned premiums	77.2	83.3	75.4
Expenses as % of written premiums	27.0	26.6	28.0
Operating ratio	104.2	109.9	103.4

EXCHANGE RATES

In the above figures foreign currency has been converted according to our normal practice at approximately the average rates of exchange ruling during the period. The principal rates were:—

U.S.A.	\$1.71	\$2.00	\$1.80
Canada	\$1.76	\$1.99	\$1.78
Australia	\$1.57	\$1.59	\$1.48

The effect of the depreciation of sterling on the comparison of the first quarter results was to improve profit before taxation by about £2.2m. Investment income benefited by some £2.4m, and the underwriting profit was adversely affected to the extent of £0.2m.

LONG TERM INSURANCE

New business written in the first three months of the year with corresponding figures was:—

	3 months to 31 Mar 1977	3 months to 31 Mar 1976	Year 1976
£m	£m	£m	£m
New life and annuity premiums:			
Periodical premiums	3.7	3.9	17.0
Single premiums	6.9	3.7	14.9
	10.6	7.6	31.9
New sums assured	198.3	208.7	862.0
New annuities per annum	7.3	7.7	31.4

Gateway ponders Green Shield switch

By Derek Harris
Commercial Editor

Gateway, the Bristol-based grocery chain which two years ago bought the Sperry and Hutchinson pink stamp operation in the United Kingdom, is considering a major switch to Green Shield stamps.

Trading stamps are continuing to prove a useful promotional tool for Gateway, but with the Tesco retailing chain about to give up 700 exclusive area franchises for Green Shield, Gateway is considering whether to turn more to them, said Mr Donald Lamb, Gateway's chief executive, yesterday.

Fourteen of Gateway's 95 stamp-giving stores already issue Green Shield. Not all of the rest which issue pink stamps would necessarily go over to Green Shield, it is said, because that would presumably raise the question of whether the pink stamp operation should be shut down, in turn threatening redundancies at Gateway.

Although the petrol price discount war has made this sector less attractive to trading stamp operators, Gateway still has nearly 400 garages, a substantial number of them in Scotland, issuing pink stamps. Recently the chain, which is now part of Linford Holdings, has not gone out of its way to sell new pink franchises to garages.

A substantial number of the Green Shield franchisees being freed by Tesco—representing about 20 per cent of Green Shield's business—could also go to trading stamp operators in the Booker McConnell Group.

Booker McConnell, 119 of whose Budget outlets in the South east already give Green Shield stamps, is particularly considering whether to add its 32 other Budget outlets to the network.

But the 58 recently-acquired Murdoch Norton Rusts supermarkets, another South-east chain, are clearly another possibility for the introduction of stamps. It seems unlikely that Booker McConnell's other 74 non-food and butchery shops would be brought into the stamp operation.

International Stores, a subsidiary of B.A.T. Industries, is continuing its talks with Green Shield on taking over about 100 Tesco franchisees.

Green Shield said yesterday that if the Tesco changeover caused a run on the bank by stimulating the rate of redemptions as turnover declined, if only temporarily, there was ample provision by the company to cover the situation.

The redemption provision in 1975 was £1.5m, and it is a standing policy of Green Shield always to have sufficient cash in reserve to cover the gift value of all stamps issued.

Business appointments

Directors for Bank of Scotland

Sir Richard Pease and Mr Angus Pelham Burn have been made directors of Bank of Scotland.

Mr J. M. Payne has been elected deputy chairman of Bland Payne Reinsurance Brokers.

Mr A. A. B. Brown is now a director of John Waddington.

Mr David Abell, managing director of Leyland Special Process, is to be chairman of the European Industrial Division.

Mr David Rowe-Beddoe has been elected president of Revlon Europe, Middle East and Africa.

Mr Ricardo Bague, managing director of Revlon Argentina, becomes executive vice-president of Revlon Latin America.

Mr A. E. Johnson becomes managing director of B-Ed International (UK).

Mr Masao Kamori has been elected as the next president of Mitsubishi Heavy Industries to replace Mr Gakuji Moriya, who will become the next chairman of the board.

Mr P. G. H. Hedley-Dent has become a director of Bankers' Investment Trust.

Mr Rod Stone has joined the board of Nottel Communications.

Mr R. H. Newman, a director of EMI Electronics, has been elected president of the Electronic Engineering Association and chairman of council. He succeeds Mr P. E. Bates.

Mr G. B. Kiddy has been made managing director of Firth Brown Castings.

Mr Arthur Sumra has joined the board of Gandy Editions.

Mr David Sidebottom has been appointed a director of Nova (Jersey) Knot.

Mr D. M. Goode has been made managing director of Colodense and Sir A. L. Hammond, sales director.

Miss Elizabeth Anderson has become a partner in Glover & Co.

Mr F. C. Hegard has been made chairman of Amalgamated Industrials. Mr A. I. Smith has retired from the board. Mr Keith Cunningham has been appointed to the board as deputy chairman and Mr Paul Ryan becomes a director.

Mr George Simpson has been made a director of Young Austen and Young.

Mr Colin Duff and Mr David Smith have joined the Charles Colston Group board.

Mr James Fox, deputy managing director of Bollom, has been named managing director. He succeeds Mr Philip Bollom, who has become managing director and chief executive of parent company, Johnson Group Cleaners.

The following board changes have taken place within the Econa Group. Mr D. E. Rogers had become managing director of Econa and chairman of all group subsidiary companies. Mr R. L. Boland has been made managing director, and Mr G. R. Dunning, deputy managing director, of J. S. Wright & Company. Mr B. R. Lewis and Mr F. Shaw have become directors of Econa Packaging. Mr P. J. Haywood and Mr W. Pratt have been made directors of Crumpton Plastics. Mr K. Ackroyd has joined the board of Follet.

Leyland dealer hits out at 'flood of approaches' from car importers

By Clifford Webb

Foreign car manufacturers are trying to take advantage of the present indecision over the future of Leyland Cars, by persuading distributors and dealers to desert the troubled state-controlled group and switch to imported car franchises.

Caffrys, Leyland's biggest distributor in Sussex and Kent, yesterday reported "an absolute flood of approaches" during the past few months. It is so alarmed by the importers' tactics that it is planning to take full-page advertisements in local newspapers to name the most persistent importers involved.

Mr Alan Caffrys, managing director (sales), said: "We shall be naming Fiat, Renault, Datsun, BMW and Toyota. These are the people who have committed their offers to paper, but we could name many more. We have about 100 retail dealerships of whom we own about half. We have just lost two dealers, one of them to Peugeot."

"There has always been this sort of approach. It is part of the normal motor trade psychology. But the difference now is that there has been an absolute flood of approaches over the past three months."

Advertisements which will be appearing over the next few days contain the following statement from Caffrys: "We suspect that the British public is a little fed up with having on the receiving end of the national pastime of knocking Britain. And in his support Caffrys certainly thinks it is time to say, 'Hands off the currently favoured target—Leyland Cars.'"

Another reason for the increased activity by importers is the big reorganization of Leyland's 2,700-strong network which has been under way for the past two years and is now approaching its final stages. Importers are clearly hoping to pick up distributors and dealers who are unhappy with their proposed new roles.

Last night, importers denied

that they were trying to cash in on Leyland's troubles. A spokesman for Fiat UK said: "We have about 340 outlets. We plan to increase this to some 415, but the additional dealerships will have to be of the highest possible quality. That means they can only come from some other franchise, including Leyland. But to suggest that we are mounting a concentrated attack on them is just not true."

Renault said: "We have not made a specific plan to try to attract Leyland distributors and dealers. The only approach we are making are part of our normal marketing strategy." A Leyland Cars spokesman said: "Since December 1 we have lost 99 outlets, of which 41 were planned terminations. The surprising thing is that although there has been a lot of pressure on our network to desert so few have, in fact, left us. At the same time we have a long queue of people waiting to snap up available franchises."

Community poised to float \$500m loan

Brussels, May 11.—Arrangements for a \$500m fund-raising effort on the international capital market by the European Economic Community are likely to be finalized by the end of May or early June.

The funds are to be made available to Italy as a Community loan to replace Britain's contribution to a medium-term EEC loan to Italy, from which Britain withdrew its \$40m share last autumn.

The EEC Commission is sounding the market for the best conditions and has not so far charged any single bank with banking growth to manage the Community issue.

Among the institutions in contact with the Commission are understood to be Deutsche Bank, of West Germany, and Banque de Paris et des Pays Bas (Paris), of France.

Details of the Commission's talks with various banks are being kept secret.

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5 year Financial Record

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Turnover	15,816	22,186	38,130	45,323	53,437	
Exports	1,591	2,077	3,898	8,534	12,740	
Profit before taxation	895	1,224	2,090	3,112	4,016	
Return on capital	10.8%	11.8%	27.5%	29.8%	40.4%	
Earnings per share fully diluted (at 52% taxation)	5.7	5.8	9.4	12.5	15.4	
Dividends per share (pence)	11	13	21	3.2	5.6	

*12/15ths of a 15 month period

The underlying potential of the Group is greater now than it has ever been.... if we achieve the plans which we have laid, major benefits will accrue to employees and shareholders alike.

David Hargreaves, Chairman

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The listing has been arranged in conjunction with Warburg Paribas Becker Inc., New York.

Immunised to servicing overseas debts costing Britain \$1,300m a year

May 11 — The Government's public sector now owes about \$22,000m (£12,900m) to its overseas creditors and pays \$1,300m a year on servicing these debts, at current rates of interest. Most of them, which are guaranteed by the Treasury, are due to be repaid by 1979, the annual amount being due for repayment being to rise rapidly, reaching a peak in 1981. The table sets out the pattern of repayments up to 1986.

Caroline Addison

Between the Government and the IMF, Government debts account for over half of the total outstanding at \$11,500m. Overseas loans to local authorities, nationalised industries and other public bodies such as the Water Council, account for the other \$10,700m, most of which was raised under the exchange cover scheme.

This covers borrowings against alterations in the exchange rate, which have already increased the sterling value of the loans, as most were taken out before last year's plunge in the value of the pound.

Not all of the government loans arranged recently have yet been drawn. The \$22,000m total excludes \$1,100m of the \$3,900m IMF loan arranged in 1976, and \$300m of the Eurodollar loan raised at the beginning of this year. These amounts are expected to be drawn later in the year.

SCHEDULED REPAYMENT OF FOREIGN CURRENCY DEBT OF THE UK PUBLIC SECTOR 1977-1986										
	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986
\$ billion										
HMG \$2.5 billion loan	—	—	—	—	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	—	—
HMG \$1.5 billion loan	—	—	—	—	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.2	—	—
IMF — oil facility	—	—	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.1	—	—	—
May 1976 drawing on 1st credit tranche	—	—	0.2	0.4	0.2	—	—	—	—	—
January 1977 drawing on \$3.9 billion standby	—	—	—	0.4	0.6	0.1	—	—	—	—
Foreign currency bonds	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1
Long-term debt	0.0	0.7	1.7	2.0	2.7	1.6	0.8	0.6	0.1	0.1
Borrowing by other public sector bodies	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS†	0.2	0.8	2.4	3.2	4.7	3.2	2.0	2.0	0.3	0.3

Drawings up to end-March 1977 only.
† Individual items may not add up to total because of roundings.

Britain's foreign currency reserves have risen to record levels this year, partly as a result of dollar purchases by the Bank of England to hold down the pound's exchange rate. They stood at \$10,130m at the end of April.

Criticism of the Government for accepting this build-up, and enthusiasm about Britain's new-found financial strength, has tended to ignore its large overseas debts.

They were built up most obviously during last year's attempts to shore up the pound, but a steady increase in Britain's indebtedness has been the counterpart of the huge balance-of-payments deficits which have been run up in recent years.

North Sea oil is about to transform Britain's balance of payments position. A swing into surplus is expected this year, and substantial, continuing payments surpluses are forecast until the mid-1980s.

Indeed it was on the rocky future promised by the North Sea discoveries that the Government was able to raise such large overseas loans, and it will be with the payments surpluses to come that the debts will be repaid.

Although paying off Britain's creditors will absorb some of the benefits, these are expected by many forecasters greatly to exceed the outstanding debt. Most of the government debt is to the IMF and other governments, including \$4,700m of long-term loans, mainly to the United States and Canada, which were arranged soon after the end of the Second World War.

Much of the debt of the rest of the public sector was raised on the open market.


ECSC loan of £53m for Italian steelmaker

Brussels, May 11.—A loan of \$80,000m (about £53m) to Acciaierie di Piombino, an Italian steel company, has been granted by the European Economic Community from funds of the European Coal and Steel Community, the Commission announced here today. Terms of the loan were not disclosed. But a spokesman said they would be in accordance with the usual ECSC disbursements.

The funds are to contribute to financing a major modernisation programme at Piombino, especially the streamlining of casting installations.

Belgian steel decline

Brussels, May 11.—Belgian crude steel production last month dropped 16.5 per cent on March and 23.3 per cent over the year, according to the Steel Industry Federation. Output totalled 902,000 metric tons.



Aquascutum

Makers of fine clothing for men and women since 1851

Highlights from the Statement by the Chairman, Mr. Gerald M. Abraham, C.B.E., for the year ended 31st January 1977.

- Earnings up 43% at £1,710,074 - the highest ever.
- Dividend up 10% to 1.3656p per 5p share.
- Sales to overseas customers responsible for growth in turnover and profit.
- Overseas trade now 64% of turnover - up 51% at £12 million.
- New year started well - prospects are good.

Copies of the Report and Accounts are available from the Secretary, Aquascutum and Associated Companies Ltd., 100 Regent Street, London W1A 2AQ.

American policies on international aid questioned by bankers

Frank Vogl, Economics Correspondent, Washington, May 11.

An increasing number of American commercial bankers now believe that official international efforts at solving the needs of countries with serious balance of payments problems are inadequate. Critical international difficulties could therefore develop here long.

They assert that governments continuing to rely too heavily on international commercial bank lending, as a first step, the private bankers argue that immediate on should be taken firmly establish two special credit facilities which have long been in discussion.

They believe that the establishment of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development's proposed \$25,000m "fund" (about \$14,500m) would serve to strengthen confidence. It should not be viewed as an alternative to new international monetary facilities, they argue.

In addition, they contend the new IMF facility, which Dr. Johannes Witteveen, managing director, is to establish with a volume of about \$16,500m, should be established and engaged.

The chairman of one of the largest "large banks" in the world, said: "The commercial banks have been bailing out the international monetary system the last three years and they are not doing it any longer." These comments, the bankers have been bluntly made in recent private conversations with government leaders and officials and have, at least, some sympathy from Dr. Burns, the Federal Reserve chairman.

His comments are being at a time when the Bank is under attack because what they call public misunderstanding about their role when they feel risks in making foreign loans may well be increasing use of delays in strengthening the IMF's resources and use of some rash American policy decisions.

His comments come at a time there is also mounting concern over the way in which Arabians, in particular, to invest in vast cash flows. Last week Sheikh Ahmad Al-Khalil, the Saudi foreign minister, added to the confusion when visiting Washington.

He said in several newspaper interviews that Saudi Arabia was not willing to make a large contribution to the new IMF credit facility.

However, in a television programme at the weekend, Mr. Fred Bergsten, the assistant Treasury Secretary for International Affairs, said he had been assured by the Saudi minister that Saudi Arabia would make a "substantial" contribution to the IMF facility.

The bankers note that President Carter's human rights policies, while laudable in principle, have added to the difficulties of bankers in determining the security of some of their foreign loans.

They point out that there are now about 42 countries listed as human rights violators by the American Department of State. Many of these are countries which have very large loans from American banks and whose creditworthiness may be undermined if United States officials add to them were reduced because of human rights considerations.

In addition, the bankers state that the surplus oil-producing countries are becoming increasingly sophisticated in the manner in which they invest their funds. They are using an increasing number of banks, placing more funds in securities, Treasury Bills and in real estate.

Thus they are substantially slowing the rate at which they add to their deposits with those leading commercial banks which have been the largest foreign lenders in recent years.

Further, the private bankers point out that their large foreign lending in the last two years has partly reflected weak domestic commercial loan demand, but that a sharp rise in domestic lending is now likely expected. This will force some slow-down in the levels of foreign lending.

The bankers also note that because of public pressures and increased government scrutiny of commercial bank foreign lending, the banks are reaching a position where they are backing right away from making balance-of-payments loans and concentrating on foreign industrial project loans to a slowly declining number of countries.

Unilever and European Integration

Extracts from the speech by Mr. David Orr, Chairman of Unilever Limited, at the Annual General Meeting on Wednesday, 11th May, 1977.

Twenty years ago, the Treaty of Rome inaugurated the European Economic Community.

Naturally, my predecessors were from the beginning supporters of the idea of a Western Europe restored through unity to vigour, prosperity and influence.

This twentieth anniversary is a good time to look back at what has been achieved, to consider the problems facing us today, to look forward at what still has to be done.

Unilever in Europe

What happens in the Community is of great importance to us in Unilever. Sixty per cent of our business is still in the Community, our turnover in 1976 was £5½ billion, and our total investment is £2 billion.

We employ nearly 177,000 people in over 200 factories and offices. This makes us one of the Community's biggest employers. We spend over £500 million a year buying from the Community's farmers and as much again buying from its other industries. We pay over £350 million in direct and indirect taxes to its Governments. This year we expect to invest £300 million in the Community on fixed assets alone.

We are important within the Community in detergents, toilet soap, margarine, oilseed extraction, ice cream and frozen food.

We also do most of our research in the Community, with three laboratories in the United Kingdom, two in the Netherlands, one in Germany and one in France. Nearly a thousand scientists are working in these laboratories, enabling us to be leaders in food technology, health margarines, animal nutrition and the techniques of safety testing.

Common Agricultural Policy

The divergence between economics also threatens the Community's Common Agricultural Policy, under attack especially because of the large surpluses it creates.

In theory, in common units of account, the prices are the same. In practice, in the marks and guilders and pounds the farmer gets and the housewife pays, they are not. Each Government fixes its own rate of exchange against the unit of account. To take the extreme case, at the prevailing rate of exchange between the Deutschmark and the pound, the German farmer may get almost 40 per cent more than the British farmer for the same produce, creating all the distortions which are so damaging, for instance, to our meat businesses in the United Kingdom.

I recognise that it is a great deal easier to criticise than to think of an answer. The Common Agricultural Policy is at the heart of the Community. In the long run, the objective should be an agriculture which can adapt to consumer demand, and provide a living for farmers at prices more in line with those in the world outside.

Employee participation

Unilever is committed to participation, but recognises that it can take many forms. Trade union structures, worker attitudes, the operation in practice of Boards, all vary from country to country. Our experience in Germany and more recently in the Netherlands has been constructive; but that does not mean that the German or Dutch model of participation is necessarily right for other countries.

We believe that participation can only work if it develops organically, out of the culture, traditions,

The Annual General Meeting

The Report and Accounts for 1976 were adopted. A final dividend for the year ended 31st December, 1976 of 11.78 pence per ordinary share of Unilever Limited was declared, payable as to 7.01 pence per share on 29th May, 1977 to shareholders registered in the books of the Company on 9th April, 1977; and as to 4.77 pence per share at a time or times to be determined by the Directors to holders of ordinary capital now in issue registered at the time of payment. The foregoing figures will be subject to adjustment in the event of a change in the rate of Advance Corporation Tax.

The existing Directors were re-elected with the exception of Dr. J. G. Collingwood whose retirement had already been announced and who did not offer himself for re-election. Mr. F. W. L. Mann was elected a Director of the Company. The Auditors were re-appointed.

After the dividend resolution was passed, the Chairman said:

Shareholders may well feel aggrieved that after a year of outstanding profit growth the Company is not permitted to propose a dividend payment of more than 10 per cent above last year.

Some relaxation of dividend control has been permitted to companies with substantial overseas investment. We have approached the Treasury asking whether Unilever could be allowed similar exemption. They have informed us that the policy guidelines under which some companies have been granted exemption from control are not intended to apply to companies like our own who have sizeable U.K. operations. Subsequently the Treasury has clarified the rules in a way that clearly excludes us from exemption.

We greatly regret this and I would urge the Government to reconsider the present controls on dividends. They are arbitrary in operation, unfair to shareholders and I believe damaging to the economy.

They are unfair because shareholders have suffered badly compared with the rest of the community. In the three years to 1976 average earnings, in money terms, rose by over 70 per cent while dividend incomes increased by only 28 per cent. Here, I am not speaking just about the one and a half million investors who hold shares directly, but also about the many millions of people who are members of pension funds and hold insurance policies. Ordinary working people look to their pension funds and "with profits" insurance policies to protect their retirement against inflation.

They are damaging to the economy because they restrict and distort the flow of risk capital through the stock market into industry. Firms with surplus cash are prevented from distributing it for investment elsewhere. The market's function of guiding investment capital to its most fruitful employment is undermined.

Unilever has a positive attitude to new investment and we will be increasing our capital expenditure in the U.K. substantially in 1977. A CBI survey suggests that much of British industry is also ready to increase investment. I am sure that these investment intentions would be strengthened if the Government was to scrap dividend controls.

Mr. Colin Black, on behalf of the shareholders, proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. David Orr, Director, Managers and Staff. In reply the Chairman said he felt sure that this would be greatly appreciated by all employees and he would ensure that it was passed on.

practices, and ways of thought of each society. All employees must take part, not only certain sections. The effectiveness of management must not be impaired. The interests of shareholders must be respected. A parent company must be able to control the composition of the boards of its subsidiaries.

In the United Kingdom, these conditions have been notably disregarded by the recommendations of the Bullock Committee; the proposals of the majority of the Committee would compulsorily hand over to trade union nominees equal power with the shareholders' representatives. That is why those recommendations have met with such unwavering hostility from British industry.

The proposals of the Commission are to some extent preferable, although they fail to provide for the parent company's control of the composition of the boards of all its subsidiaries. But they do recognise the rights of all employees and the impossibility of instituting a totally uniform system for all the countries of the Community.

The future

There are many threats to the Community's cohesion, many decisions which are mere bargains between national interests.

But if more and more policies are to be national policies rather than Community policies, the decisions of industry will again have to be made on a national basis rather than on the Community as a single unit. A long-term loss for all will be inevitable.

New initiatives are needed. Our national leaders must demonstrate that they still believe in the ideal of a progressive, united and outward looking Europe. The Community must be seen to be on the move towards one economy, in small matters as well as big.

It will not be an easy task for the Council of Ministers. No country is likely to agree to the abandonment of the rule of unanimity, but ministers might more often show grace in bowing to the views of the majority in the interests of the Community.

Direct elections

Neither Council nor Commission can be effective unless they are in tune with the opinion of the Community's 250 million people. I believe that this opinion will only be truly represented if the direct elections to the European Parliament are held as promised in 1978.

Conclusion

I have no doubt that Unilever will grow even if the Community stays as it is. But the more completely the Community becomes one, the greater its prosperity will be; and the growth of a company like ours is bound up with the prosperity of its consumers. We have practical as well as idealistic reasons for wishing to see a more closely integrated Community.

Telegram plea to ease scrap export curbs

The survival of some of the world's ferrous scrap companies depends on a relaxation of export restrictions, the Scrap Federation said in a telegram yesterday to Mr. Les Mackfield, Under Secretary of the Department of Industry.

At an annual conference of the association at Torquay, authorising the telegram after it had been agreed that several previous attempts to persuade the government to allow more scrap exported to countries outside the EEC had apparently failed.

Henry Brook, federation president, said that the state of scrap industry in Britain "desperately" with negligible markets both here or within the Community. Permission was needed to give members the chance to find a market, even for some of the higher grades of scrap, and not normally in quantity.

His report to the conference Mr. Brook said 1976 had been a disastrous year for the scrap industry since 1961 in ferrous scrap imports and exports in both tonnages and value. The federation was critical of the attitude of its principal customers, the British Steel Corporation, private sector steelmakers and the foundry industry.

Although their purchase of scrap was currently low and stocks were at their highest level for years, all three groups continue to oppose any relaxation of scrap export regulations.

Mr. Brook told the conference the British Steel Corporation had emphasised that it was not prepared to abandon its present buying policy and revert to regional buying from any merchant. At the moment the BSC purchases its scrap from only a small group of larger merchants. Other companies can no longer supply direct to BSC works.

Sir Charles Villiers, BSC chairman, had met a delegation from the federation Mr. Brook said and suggested continuing discussions between the two industries. He indicated that some modification of the present BSC buying system might emerge from such talks, according to Mr. Brook.

Mr. Eric J. Cross, managing director of a small Cardiff scrap company, was elected as new president of the federation.

Aluminium stocks down


World stocks of aluminium, which have been rising steadily since last September, declined sharply to just over four million tonnes. This compares with 4.7 million tonnes a year ago.

Stocks of primary metal at end of March totalled 2.3 million tonnes against three million in March last year, according to latest figures from the International Primary Metals Institute.

£25m sugar plant for Sudan

Copper-Nail Group has secured a £25m contract for the construction of a sugar factory in the Sudan which will be one of the largest single production units of its kind in the world.

The Kenana Sugar Company wants the factory to be completed by September, 1979, at Rabak, south of Khartoum, on the White Nile. The factory will be capable of crushing 17,000 tons of cane a day from the Kenana estates.



Unilever

A statement on wages and conditions of African workers employed by Unilever companies in South Africa has been published. Copies can be obtained from the address alongside.

The Annual General Meeting of Unilever N.V. took place in Rotterdam on the same day. Mr. H. F. van den Hoona, Chairman of Unilever N.V., presided and delivered the same speech as Mr. Orr in London.

To: Information Division, Unilever Limited, P.O. Box 68, Unilever House, London EC4P 4BQ.

Please send me a copy of the full text of the speech.

Name _____

Address _____

Conference warned over dangers in maintaining world overcapacity

Plea for joint European ship policies

From Peter Hill
Oslo, May 11

Unless European governments evolve a harmonised maritime policy—involving some measure of flag protection—the face of European shipbuilding will be unrecognisable within five years.

Mr Graham Day, former chief executive-designate of British Shipbuilders, the new state shipbuilding corporation, gave this stark warning here today.

At worst, European shipbuilding would gallop off in several directions at the same time. At best, a degree of harmonization might be achieved, he said.

World shipbuilding capacity must be cut back—demand for new ships over the next few years will be about one-third of recent output levels—if the industry was ever to return to both stability and viability.

Sporadic government involvement in the European industry had been adequate to keep the industry in being until recently, but this was no longer good enough, he said. Mr Day, who was addressing the North Atlantic 77 conference made it clear that he was against governments adopting "survival of the fittest" policies. In Europe it would almost certainly result in the survival of very few companies.

"The key must be the ensured employment of some base level of shipyard capacity. Hopefully, efforts would be concentrated on preserving the best units, and providing a continued level of capital expenditure so as to guarantee a future," Mr Day said.

Fighting for the few orders that would be available over the next three to five years through subsidies and other financial incentives would be

less effective and more costly than developing a semi-protected home market, the vessels for which could be built in Europe.

Other nations, he argued, supported in whole or in part some degree of flag protection. In consultation with European shipowners it should be possible to formalize what increasingly appeared to be a current practice. This would, at least, provide a stable base for European shipbuilding.

Failure to harmonize policies would lead to the disappearance of more companies than was necessary and the adverse impact on those employed directly in the yards and in the supply industries would be much greater.

Support for rationalization of the industry was given by Mr Otto Norland, executive director of Hasebros Bank, who told

the conference that maintenance of artificially high levels of yard capacities by over-investment would defer indefinitely the day when a genuine recovery in the building market would occur.

Mr Norland criticized Government policies which involved the financing of ships built on a speculative basis. He gave a warning that if these policies continued commercial financing institutions would have to reconsider their attitudes towards the shipping and shipbuilding industries.

"With each new ship built on uncommercial terms and for which there is no genuine demand, the return to a reasonably balanced supply and demand position is shipping is deferred a little longer and the cost to governments of continuing to support surplus shipyards is increased," he said.

In brief

OECD will examine world steel problems

The council of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development agreed in principle yesterday to set up an informal working group to investigate problems in the world's steel industry. AP—Dow Jones reports from Paris.

Proposals to set up the panel were made by the United States last week, after the completion of a study commissioned by the American Iron and Steel Institute which recommended, among other things, multilateral talks.

Conference sources said the Japanese delegation expressed reservations as to the terms of reference and scope of the new group, while the United States argued that member countries should be free to raise any questions.

The panel will not be formed until after consultations by OECD officials with member governments after completion of an OECD secretariat study due at the end of this month.

Mr Varley backs profit motive

Whitehall still had to conquer people's lack of understanding that industrial profits were needed to pay for social objectives, Mr Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, said in London yesterday.

The Government was giving priority to industry over social objectives, the Secretary of State told a meeting of top British and American businessmen organized by Mr Leo Kramer, the American management consultant.

Mr Varley said the Government was giving priority to industry over social objectives, the Secretary of State told a meeting of top British and American businessmen organized by Mr Leo Kramer, the American management consultant.

£100m ammonia plant project shelved

Plans by two Scandinavian companies to build a 360,000-tonnes-a-year ammonia plant at Peterhead, in Aberdeenshire, have been shelved indefinitely. Norsk Hydro of Norway and the Swedish company Sura, operating through a joint subsidiary, Scanitro, had been planning to use gas from the Frigg field for the plant, which could cost up to £100m.

Accounting freedom

An interim directive permitting qualified accountants to practice throughout the European Community has been suggested by the EEC accountants' study group (Groupe d'Etudes). The directive excludes the carrying out of statutory audits, which is being dealt with in proposals expected to be published later this year.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Pay 'discrimination' against members of state industry boards

From Mr D. Dodds

Sir, In your report on the Income Tax Services investigation into salaries in nationalized industries (May 6), you emphasized that members of public boards can rightly feel a sense of gross injustice since there has been specific Government discrimination against them. This is in contrast with other groups covered by the Top Salaries Review Body, such as the judiciary, senior ranks of the armed forces and senior civil servants, who received increases.

This organization welcomes this independent confirmation of the intolerable unfairness of the present situation and seeks only elementary justice in asking for the removal of the specific discrimination to which you refer.

May I stress two points in particular.

1. In many instances full-time board members now receive up to £3,000 per annum less than staff responsible to them, whose negotiated salaries have not been so affected.

2. The Government have already stated that increases could be given without contravening current incomes policy. We do not seek any privilege in treatment. We simply ask that a particular discrimination against our members be removed. Because of their experi-

ence our members have been selected to manage the basic industries of the nation, employing over two million people, and it is quite certain that no other group of people would have tolerated this position for so long.

May I once again appeal through your columns for this unfair specific discrimination to be removed.

Yours faithfully,
DENIS DODDS,
Chairman, Association of Members of State Industry Boards,
c/o Merseyside and North Wales Electricity Board,
Sealand Road,
Chester CH1 4LR.

Creating the environment for new enterprises

From Mr K. Swann

Sir, The publication by Arthur D. Little, New Technology-Based Firms (N.T.B.F.s) in the United Kingdom and the Federal Republic of Germany, a report prepared for the Anglo-German Foundation for the Study of Industrial Society, is timely, as it brings into focus the need to provide the environment and fiscal frameworks for the establishment of new enterprises.

It is interesting to note the comments relating to the low level of activity in both countries and the long-term implications of neglecting:

—an important channel for exploration of technological innovation

—the development of a new generation of modern industries which are needed to provide future employment and exports

—the value of N.T.B.F.s in maintaining a competitive environment in the face of the increasing power of major corporations.

The two main conclusions of the report emphasise the need for both British and West German Governments to make extensive changes in the taxation system and for both governments to channel more of their research and development spending into small technology based firms.

However, perhaps of equal importance are the comments and observations of the respondents in both countries. It is considered that both educational systems are becoming increasingly anti-business, in the United Kingdom there is an atmosphere which is "against enterprise". In both countries, industry, initiative and entrepreneurial risk are undervalued.

Contrast these attitudes with the approaches being currently

adopted in France. Having just returned from a study tour of French industrial organisations, universities and business schools I was extremely impressed with the efforts being made to encourage the development of new enterprises. Apart from Government support through chamber of commerce, the business schools and universities are very much involved in providing programmes and establishing new enterprises, and affording students assistance and advice on new ventures. New legislation is indeed required but attention must also be directed towards changing the attitudes towards enterprise, initiative and ingenuity.

Yours faithfully,
K. SWANN,
Head of Department of Management, Faculty of Management and Business,
Manchester Polytechnic,
Hilton House,
Hilton Street,
Manchester M1 2FE.

PO profits

From Mr John Tucker

Sir, Although, under the price legislation, the Post Office is obliged to find means of returning its excess profits to those who helped to create them, the method it has adopted will not in fact do so.

Many of us who have recently withdrawn from the service will not be recompensed whilst those who are now having phones installed will receive credit to which they are not entitled.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN TUCKER,
20 Station Road,
Barnes, Middlesex,
Buckinghamshire, May 6.

Building society interest rates

From Mr David King

Sir, Mr C. R. Tew is right, of course, when he suggests that the 11.5 per cent nominal building society rate represents a noticeably higher effective (true) rate of interest. The monthly repayments over a 25 year term the true yearly rate is 12.09 per cent.

The building society way of such figures is entirely their own, but I feel that my criticism lies merely in not quoting the true rate. It would be unrealistic to expect societies to lend at a true 11.5 per cent. Presumably, they would at once be into financial problems.

I believe that the societies are well aware that the habitually quoted type of rate is not actuarially precise—but the societies have never said that they are. Anyway, the point is academic, as most people are unable to borrow at less than a building society rate, however loosely it is quoted.

To my mind, the societies place themselves in a much more invidious position when they advertise to lenders "7.5 per cent equals 12 per cent" where tax is paid at standard rate. This statement is true only for the first year of lending. After, say, 10 years the average yearly "grossed up" rate to a lender has fallen to 10.53 per cent because of the compounding effect. This is an area where rules really should be applied. I feel I believe that government borrowing advertisements (eg. National Savings) no longer appear in this form.

Yours,
DAVID KING,
87 Beryard Road,
London, SE6 2LP.
May 2.

NCB sees technology export boost

By Kenneth Owen

Technology Correspondent

New electronics technology applied to the coal industry could lead to a substantial "spin-off" in overseas business, Sir Derek Ezra, chairman of the National Coal Board, said last night.

Speaking at the annual dinner of the Electronic Engineering Association, Sir Derek said: "In the coal industry our own need is to make another leap forward in our productivity performance. Having reached total mechanization, we are now seeking hard to extend remote control and automatic operations."

"The next steps in mining processes promise almost limitless opportunities for technology of many kinds. Among them electronics must be foremost."

Mr P. E. G. Bates, of Plessey, who is president of the association, said the industry's total output for 1976 was estimated at £1,400m; an increase of 28 per cent over 1975. Of this total about 42 per cent was directly exported, and the radio, radar and other electronics capital goods sector had a positive trade balance of £206m.

Mr Bates said: "We are concerned at the growing number of voices which seem to be advocating a 'free-for-all' when the present pay policy ends in July."

As for the Bullock report, Mr Bates said that the EEA fully supported the CBI approach.

Mr Ronald Newham, of EMI Electronics, introduced Mr Bates as EEA president for 1977-78.

CBI wants swifter timetable for reform of pay bargaining system

By Malcolm Brown

The Confederation of British Industry is aiming to get agreement this year with the Government and the TUC on a broad outline for the reform of pay bargaining.

A spokesman for the confederation said yesterday that among changes to the draft document outlining the CBI's ideas, which was disclosed in *The Times* on Wednesday, was a speeding up of the timetable. The draft had suggested setting a 12-month target for agreement. This was now thought to be too long.

The final version of the document—which suggests a radical new bargaining scheme

under which all pay deals would be struck within a three-month period, probably the 12 weeks immediately after the Budget—will be published in about three weeks.

One problem outlined is the difficulty of timing. The confederation wants to see a system which would involve tripartite discussion in the months before the Budget, aimed at reaching a consensus on the prevailing economic situation and its practical implications for industry and for pay bargaining. The pay talks season would then be compressed into the three months following the Budget.

But if the timing were to be

built around the spring Budget it would mean that bargaining was taking place during the height of the union conference season, which could cause problems as it would not be easy to shift the timing of union conferences. But the alternative would almost certainly involve moving the main Budget.

An issue which will arise early in any discussions with the union is the need for reform of the movement itself to make it a more effective participant in a restructured bargaining system.

The confederation wants to see less multi-unionism and a TUC able to exert a powerful influence on individual unions.

£13.5m Brussels grants for regions in UK

From David Cross

A new batch of grants totalling 33.3 million units of account (about £13.5m) for regional development projects in the United Kingdom has been approved by the EEC Commission.

Nearly 40 per cent of the grants, which come from this year's European Regional Development Fund, will go to the north of England and most of the remainder to Wales and Northern Ireland.

The projects include the building of a cigarette factory for Carreres-Rothmans at Darlington, and the expansion of a Ford carburettor plant in Belfast.

Port Talbot strikers' peace terms rejected

By Paul Routledge

The unofficial Port Talbot steel strike is to continue, and the 520 electricians, whose seven-week-old stoppage has caused the lay-off of 6,700 process workers, are not to meet again for another 10 days.

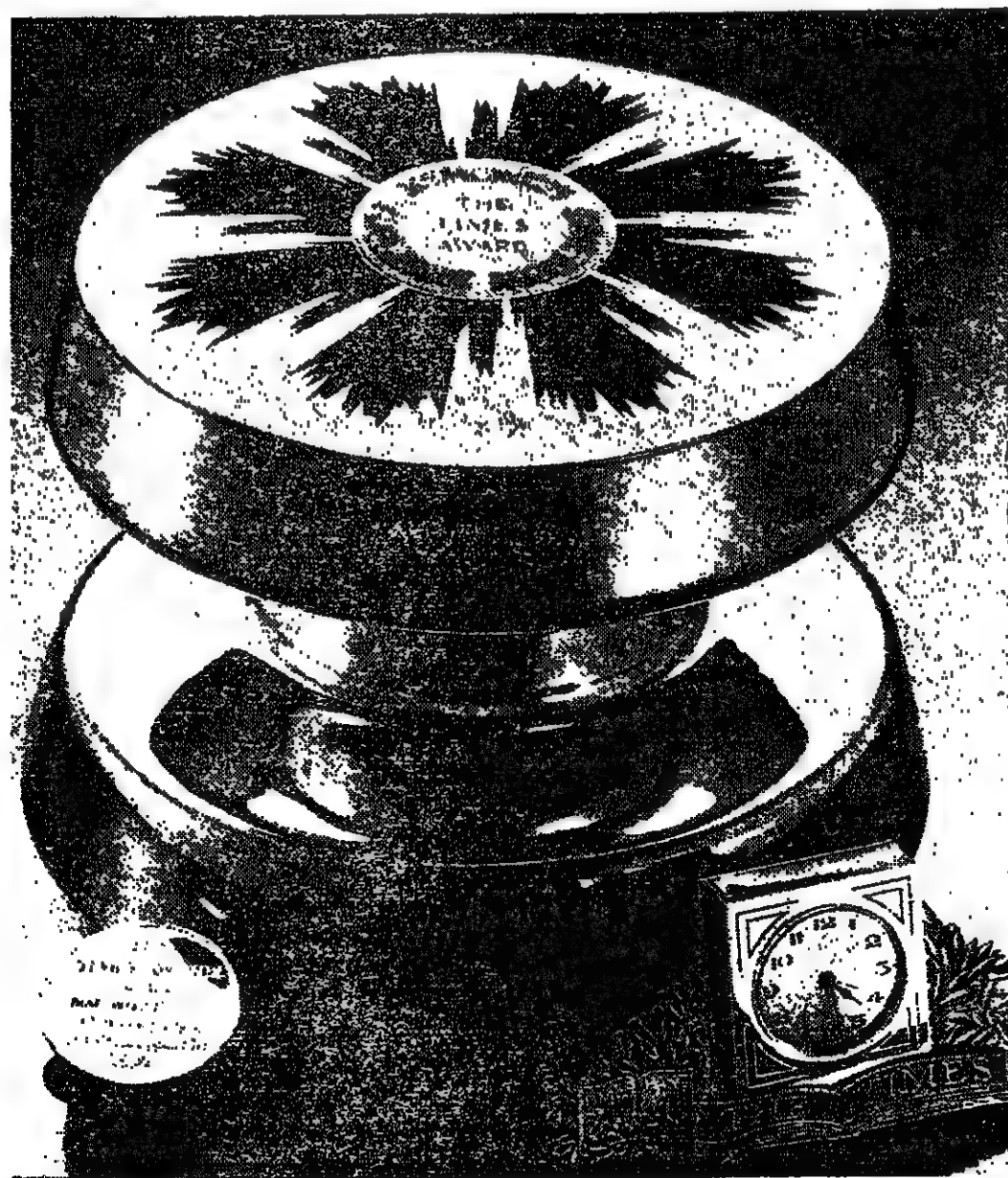
The British Steel Corporation last night rejected a compromise peace formula put forward by the strikers' leaders, which would have allowed them into talks with the management as silent observers. BSC is refusing to negotiate with the men until they go back.

Informal suggestions that the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service (ACAS) should be called in to seek a

way out of the impasse seem to have come to nothing.

The men voted yesterday to continue their strike over differences with management, and rates of pay for manning a new sister plant, but put forward their compromise formula.

Their proposal brought forth this rebuttal from the BSC: "The corporation is prepared to talk with full-time union officials about ways and means of resolving the dispute; prepared to negotiate on the particular claim with the full-time officials and the men if there is a return to work at the sister plant is resumed; not prepared to negotiate with men on unofficial strike."



THE TIMES AWARDS FOR THE BEST ADVERTISEMENT OF A COMPANY'S RESULTS FOR 1977.

The Awards

The awards will follow the 1976 pattern, namely

a) The Grand Prix, to be held for one year, awarded to the entrant whose advertisement is, in the opinion of the judges, the best submitted, irrespective of category. The Grand Prix consists of a silver trophy, specially designed for The Times by Gordon Hodgson.

b) First, second and third prizes for category winners. Awards will be made both to the winning advertiser and agent.

The Panel of Judges

The Awards will be made by an independent panel of judges, selected for their understanding of this specialised form of communication.

They will judge entries in accordance with the following criteria. An advertisement of a company's results, whether the Chairman's statement is or is not included in full or in abridged form, should:

a) Attract the eye, by virtue of its design.

b) Be easy to read, by the use of skilful typography.

c) Contain such information as prospective investors or professional advisers are likely to require, including details of the business carried on by the company.

d) Include, at the option of the advertiser, such illustrations, graphs, or diagrams as may be necessary to supplement (c) above.

e) Leave the reader with the impression that the company concerned would be a good one to do business with, to work for, or to invest in.

Note: In the case of the categories 'Interim Results' or 'Preliminary Figures', only criteria (a) to (d) will apply.

Conditions of Entry

All entries are free, but must have appeared in the pages of The Times Business News during 1977.

The following are the categories in which awards will be made:

1. Annual Results.

a) Colour or Black and White. Half page or larger, or equivalent.

b) Colour or Black and White. Less than half page or equivalent.

2. Interim Results or Preliminary Figures.

Colour or Black and White (All sizes).

3. Judges' Special Award.

The judges will have the option of making, at their absolute discretion, a special award. Details of the criteria for this award will be announced at a later date.

Entries will be accepted throughout the twelve month period January 1st–December 31st 1977, and should take the form of art pulls mounted on board, with a clear indication of the category in which they are to be judged. Six unmounted art pulls should also be provided for the use of the Award Judges.

They should be sent to:

Michael Mander, Advertisement and Marketing Director,
The Times Awards,
The Times, New Printing House Square, Gray's Inn Road,
London WC1X 8EZ. Tel: 01-837 1234.

Presentation of the awards will be made early in 1978.

THE TIMES
BUSINESS NEWS

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Testing the rules on insider trading



Lord Inchausti, chairman of P & O, big cat in capital spending.

markets spawn countless rumours and the latest upsurge has been an extension of the corporate finance boom, with many companies apparently at risk of structural takeover deals.

That kind of heavy climate in the City has led to a number of insider trading cases, particularly in the last few months. The latest case, involving the takeover of the London Stock Exchange, has been particularly prominent.

So, the initiative has been taken to test the rules on insider trading. The test case is the takeover of the London Stock Exchange, which is being handled by the City of London Corporation.

The test case is being handled by the City of London Corporation, which is the body responsible for the regulation of the City of London. The test case is being handled by the City of London Corporation, which is the body responsible for the regulation of the City of London.

Lord Inchausti, chairman of P & O, big cat in capital spending.

Lord Inchausti, chairman of P & O, big cat in capital spending.

'A power station every 12 days' - the US need

United States production of petroleum, together with imports, will not suffice to meet American demands by the year 2000. A new Department of Commerce report says that by then some 26 million cars will have to be powered by something other than petrol, or alternative means of transport will have to be provided.

The report, prepared by a special energy task force at the Commerce Department, indicates that the US will need a power station every 12 days to meet its energy needs by the year 2000.

The report notes that the US will need a power station every 12 days to meet its energy needs by the year 2000.

Peter Norman takes stock of the Crédit Suisse affair

Unanswered questions in Chiasso

The resignation on Tuesday night of Dr Heinz Wulff from his position of president of the general management of the Crédit Suisse effectively marks the end of the first act of a drama that began on April 14. It was then that the bank disclosed that it would incur heavy losses because of unauthorized activities on the part of the management of its branch in Chiasso.

But the departure of Dr Wulff, who goes with his personal integrity and honour not called into question by the bank's board, is not the end of the story.

The resignation of Dr Wulff from his position of president of the general management of the Crédit Suisse effectively marks the end of the first act of a drama that began on April 14.

came the channel for funds worth 2,000 million francs.

On the board of Taxon were the three lawyers, Dr Alessandro Villa, Dr Elbio Gada and Dr Alfredo Nosedà of the Chiasso-based law firm of Maspoli Nosedà.

Still unexplained, however, are the allegations published in the respected daily newspaper *la Neue Zürcher Zeitung* that the three Chiasso branch managers, who are also under investigation by the Lugano public prosecutor, administered a large number of companies in other parts of Switzerland.

recently belonged to the "upper levels" of the Crédit Suisse's management.

It has since come to light that on the board of one company, DUAP AG with a capital of 4.5m francs which is based in Herzogenbuchsee, sat both Dr Nosedà and Herr Hans Harung, one of the Crédit Suisse's deputy general managers in Zurich.

Another nagging question is simply why, if the charges are true, should Herr Ernst Kuhnmeier, the manager of the Chiasso branch who is at present in investigative custody, break both the law and bankers' ethics when as the head of such an important branch he can hardly have been badly paid.

20 investigators, is clearly woefully inadequate to police an industry where the bank's accumulated balance-sheet totals are more than twice the size of the country's annual gross national product.

It is still too early to determine whether the attractions of Switzerland as a financial centre will suffer irreparably from the Crédit Suisse affair.

Last week local bankers were openly relieved that it was one of the "big three" Zurich banks that had been caught in the affair and were suggesting that after a period of perhaps six months it would be "business as usual".

P & O Borrowing pressures ease

The highest issue rumours will doubtless continue to beset P & O's shares until it eventually makes a move to refinance its accounts. But the pressure which has been accumulating in the balance sheet in recent years is now easing.

At 358p and yielding 6.3 per cent, the shares of the company are now trading at a level which is about 10 per cent above the level at which they were last sold in 1976.

General cargo is still performing strongly on the back of active Middle Eastern trade and with luck there should be no more provisions to come from Bova and Twentieth Century.

Accounts: 1976 (1975) Capitalization £240m Net assets £405m (1975) Borrowings £95m (1975) Pre-tax profit £31.1m (£22.7m) Earnings per share 15.1p (9.9p)

Joint ventures in the Middle East

The rising economic nationalism in the developing world is one powerful reason why managers are having to look more carefully than some would like at the joint venture as a way of exploiting business opportunities.

The most dramatic conclusion is that the forecasts suggest a potential disarray in the transportation sector as the year 2000 approaches. It adds that it will be critically important for the motor industry to start preparing now for the changes that will be required.

The report says that total United States oil consumption, which amounted to 35.2 million barrels of oil equivalent per day in 1976, is likely to reach 41.5 million in 1985 and 54.8 million in 2000.

Domestic natural gas production is also seen as falling. The most important effect of this is that there will be no choice but to make massive programmes of coal and nuclear power expansion.

Judging from companies which have set up in the Gulf area, however, a successful joint venture can be a very profitable investment. It is not uncommon to find firms well into profit within the first year of trading, having written off all their start-up costs.

But a number of others have run into trouble, with more or less expensive results. Greenham (Plant Hire), for example, fell foul of local rivalries in Dubai, and Briskov Helicopters had to pull out of Abu Dhabi, in spite of having the government as its partner.

Box the wealthy developing countries—namely the oil producers—present a different climate altogether from that in the developed nations. Their markets are potentially vast as they are rich in resources and they are sensibly anxious to build up their management and industrial expertise before—most of them—the oil runs out.

For western managers, a joint venture may be a matter of Hobson's choice, but there are some compensations for the split in responsibility and profits. The main one is political: if a government agency or, in the Arab world and elsewhere, a relative of the ruler is the other partner, there is a greater hope that the operation will be allowed to thrive in peace.

mesh factory. It has just started production and is building up to an output of 7,500 tons a year.

Director Mr John Walsley says that he first tested his future partner's commitment by asking him to do some market research. "It was a success," he says, "but he was aware that Mr Al-Gurg, who is an adviser to the Ruler of Dubai, doesn't want to be taken for a ride for political as well as financial reasons."

GKN could not hope to supply the Gulf markets from Smethwick because mesh is mostly air, but now that the new company is established, Mr Walsley finds that it is already pulling the more specialized products out of the United Kingdom, and other products in GKN's big range will probably follow.

Another joint venture with Al-Gurg, but with a more chequered history. It was set up in 1975 to produce chemical additives for the building industry; they are easy to transport but have a limited shelf-life, so a local presence was vital.

which packs the shrimps into two-kilo frozen blocks.

Ross provides the management and technical skills and undertakes to market the product, mainly in the United States and Japan.

Managing director Mr Dennis Revell also looks after the Qatar National Fishing Company, in which Ross has a 40 per cent stake.

Mr Revell, an accountant who speaks fluent Arabic, finds that "80 per cent of the success of a joint venture is trust". Both Ross and the Bahrain government have a long-term interest in the success of the venture, but there is a hint of divergence. The government naturally wishes to expand its fishing industry as widely as possible, and "we have helped them, but we've made it clear where our expertise lies".

Like Mr Walsley at GKN, Mr Hepper stresses that from the partner's point of view, the relationship is with him as an individual, not with his position in the company. In fact, executive responsibility for all the ventures lies with his overseas director.

Arab businessmen find it peculiarly unsettling if the western company changes its management too frequently, as sometimes happens, and, if changes are necessary, they expect the incumbent to introduce his successor personally.

The author is Associate Editor of Management Today.

Business Diary: Sir Ivor bales out • G'day Bill

Civil Aviation Authority to have just Nigel as choice as his deputy for the post and then as controller of National Air Traffic Services.

All seemed well until the Treasury intervened. They ruled that in such circumstances, an air traffic controller would have to be "elected" by the amount of his pension, which in Sir Ivor's case would be £2,775, which would mean that he would be paid £5,725.

This sum, Sir Ivor apparently feels, is not quite enough for being chief executive of a government body responsible for the smooth running of all British aviation including air traffic control and safety.

Sir Ivor is about to retire from the RAF, but has been serving for the past four and a half years with the C.A.A., first deputy and then as controller of National Air Traffic Services.

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Unilever's Bill Mann selling in at least 100 more had only Europeans on the board.

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1975 Mann, who is 52, had been in London as deputy detergent coordinator.

David Orr, Unilever's chairman, is said to be rather tickled that the board has been further "internationalised".

Incidentally, he told Business Diary yesterday that the Australian are the world's biggest users of toilet soaps and toothpaste—but not of soap powders.

Scotia, it will be to take up a professorship in business studies at the University of Dalhousie, Halifax.

This does not, however, mean a break with the sea and ships. Day is establishing a maritime consultancy, Sedna (named after the Eskimo goddess of the briny), an apparently has some projects in the works already.

Day's successor, Michael Casey, is also in Oslo for the Nor-Shipping exhibition and conference which is a selling point for the shipping industry in the North Sea area.

said, to the Skipton and District Powerloom Overlookers' Association.

Firms whose staff associations are unable to convince Edwards or the Employment Appeal Tribunal that they are free of management control make attractive targets for outside unions hungry for recruits.

Without a certificate it is impossible to invoke the Employment Protection Act on behalf of members, a point that may be driven home by the likes of the Transport & General Workers' Union and the National Union of Bank Employees.

Edwards, a former under-secretary at the Department of Employment, refuses about one in eight applications. Only one staff association, the Blue Circle, has appealed and the judge upheld Edwards's ruling.

John Edwards sent a shiver down the corporate spine of a brewery, an insurance company and a bunny club yesterday.

Edwards is the certification officer of the Certification Office for Trade Unions and Employers' Associations. He has refused certificates of independence to the staff associations of the Carlsberg brewery, the Playboy Club and the United Friendly Insurance Company—although not, let it be

J. HEWITT & SON

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PROFIT UP 86% ON AN INCREASED

TURNOVER OF 34%

	1976	1975
Sales	£2,256	£1,688
Profit before tax	250	135
Taxation	129	59
Dividends	22	21
Earnings per 5p ordinary share	5.5p	3.0p

Extracts from the Statement by the Chairman, Mr. J. K. Hewitt, presented to the Annual General Meeting held on May 11th.

I am very pleased to report that the anticipated increase in turnover and profit referred to in my last report has been more than achieved thus providing a welcome improvement in liquid funds. Profit before tax is 86% higher than in 1975 with turnover increased by 34%. The resultant healthy financial position has enabled your Board to authorise additional capital expenditure to consolidate the manufacturing capacity of the Company.

With the rise in earnings per ordinary share from 3.0p to 5.5p your Board recommend that the dividend be increased, by the maximum permitted amount, from 0.84p per share to 0.924p per share.

Exports of your Company's products made an important contribution to the results, rising in value from £182,998 in 1975 to £207,636 in 1976. Further efforts are being made to maintain this increase in the current year.

Whilst it is too early to make predictions for 1977 as a whole in view of the seasonal demand for some of your Company's products, I would anticipate that the profit for 1977 is unlikely to be quite as high as that achieved for 1976.

Telephone Rentals

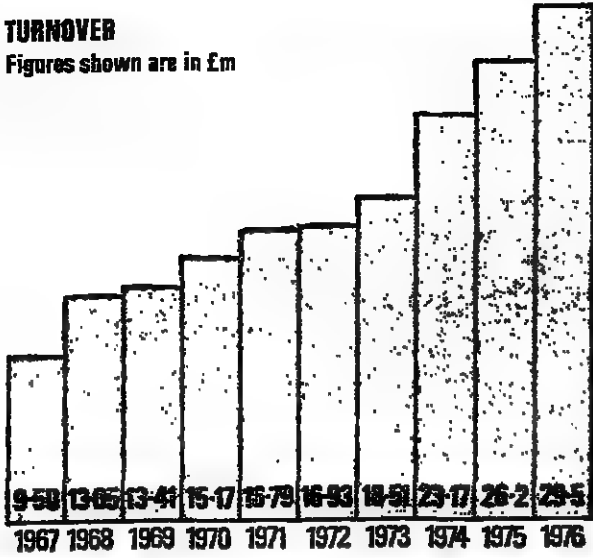
LIMITED
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DICTOGRAPH TELEPHONES LIMITED

OPERATING TR SERVICES

Record Group Results for 1976

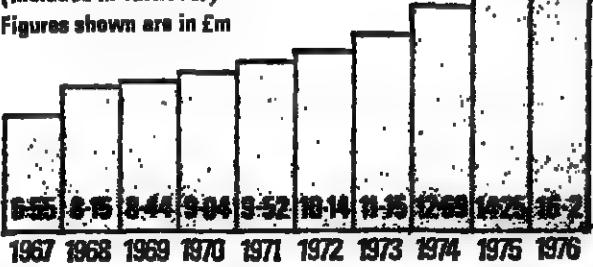
TURNOVER

Figures shown are in £m



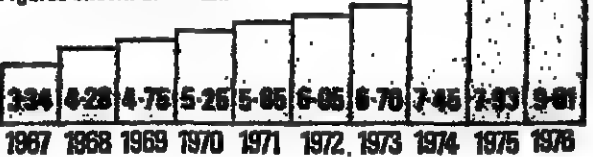
RENTAL REVENUE

(Included in Turnover)
Figures shown are in £m



GROUP PROFIT BEFORE TAX

Figures shown are in £m



Mr. E. H. Cooper, the Chairman, reports:—

* Group Profits for 1976 after Depreciation and Relocation Expenses of £202,949 but before Taxation were £9,012,854 which are again a record and show an increase of 13.6% over the previous year.

* Directors recommend an increased Final Dividend of 15.4% (14%) making a total for 1976 of 20.9% (19%).

* New rentals taken showed a useful increase over 1975's record results. New sale business did not match the high figures secured in that year, mainly due to a fall-off in orders secured in the U.K. Group turnover once again showed a substantial improvement from £26,199,626 in 1975 to £29,496,798 including an increase of £1,953,880 in rents receivable.

Future Prospects

* Whilst, in present conditions, our Overseas interests are unlikely to show any marked improvement over their results for 1976, a slow but steady improvement in trading conditions in the United Kingdom is already becoming apparent. New rental business taken by the Group for the first quarter of the year is substantially ahead of that secured for the same period in 1976 and new sale business is beginning to approach the high levels attained in 1975.

* In these circumstances coupled with your Company's strong financial position and in the absence of adverse economic circumstances your Board are quietly confident that further steady progress will be made during 1977.

Meeting 8th June, 1977

Dividend payable 5th July, 1977.

TR Services include PABX and Internal Telephone Systems
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Staff Location • Time Control
Production Control • Fire Alarms
Fire Detection • Hotel Services
Security Guard Protection

HEAD OFFICE

T.R. House, Bletchley,
Milton Keynes, MK3 5JL.

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Stock markets

Oils prominent in late trading

Equities gave up a good part of Tuesday's gains as profits were inevitably taken. Though the FT Index closed a full seven points down at 456.6, dealers were not discouraged. The selling was confined to the closing of speculative positions and did not represent a fundamental change of market mood. Late in the day, a good two-way trade developed as buyers came in again at the lower levels.

Office and Electronic Machines showed last year what it could do in recession and against a depreciating pound, a big point for an importer of German equipment. It posted sales and profits by nearly a fifth. Now the pound has steadied and new lines are being marketed. A bid could eventually appear when the chairman steps down. The shares are now 74p.

In the gilt-edged market, nearly all the interest was at the long end and stimulated by interest rate hopes. After some concern over the money supply had made for a hesitant start, prices went ahead in a modest turnover and by the close gains stretched up to half a point.

By comparison, shorts were neglected and ended close to their overnight levels. For a multiplicity of reasons oil shares sprang to prominence late in the day. There is now a widespread belief that the Government sale of 65m BP shares will come this week and the shares, spurred by United States demand, closed 18p up at 944p. The chairman's overnight speech was an additional incentive here, but for Shell there was an entirely different picture.

The fact that today's quarterly figures have been put forward to 9.30 am is interpreted by some to indicate a rights issue and the shares slipped 5p to 542p. A majority think this unlikely.

Oil Exploration was wanted speculatively and gained 12p to 142p after the chairman's statement at the annual meeting was interpreted to the surprise of some, to augur well for the Thelma Field prospect.

On the stores pitch, Burton's rationalization plans brought a delayed response and the "A" shares dipped 8p to 70p in front of interim figures due today. With Hepworth still finding a "big demand" for the traditional suit the shares were a steady 42p, but elsewhere on the pitch Gus "A" gave up 6p to 237p and Boots, in spite of a United States deal, 5p to 165p. A firm exception was House of Fraser which was supported at 117p, up 2p.

Over in buildings, comment on figures left Costain 9p lower at 204p but there was speculative support for Phoenix Timber which jumped 11p to 103p. The market would not be surprised to hear of takeover news in the industry.

In motors, coachbuilding Plaxtons went ahead a couple of pence to 103p before relapsing to unchanged after bullish figures, while Vauxhall up 5p to 110p, was also favoured. Lighting & Leisure returned at 52p, a rise of 16p on Tuesday's suspension price after the terms from Inchcape. Copper-Neill lost 3p to 82p in spite of news of a Sudan factory contract and a rights issue and profits news lowered Derwent Stamping by 10p to 140p.

In electricals, AB Electronics continued to be speculatively supported and rose 7p to 112p, but on the other side of the coin Laurence Scott succumbed to profit-taking on the lack of further takeover news and gave up 3p to 132p. Thomas "A" was particularly weak at 282p, off 10p, but still anticipating a Drax statement. Keynote Parsons gained another 15p for a close of 202p.

Engineers had a firmer-than-average look with the exception of Hawker Siddeley which lost 12p to 656p on recent gains. Both GKN 4p to 340p and

Blackwood Hodge 3p to 123p gained ground and Averis 6p to the good at 156p after a strong second-half report.

In spite of a denial of takeovers, Hunting Gibson closed 3p up at 305p. There was market talk here that an impending deal is more likely to involve the group's expanding oil interests than its ship.

In insurance, Royal gained 6p to 353p after quarterly figures but the share offering mentioned in a depressed credit which lost 3p to 123p.

Nervousness about Courtland's forthcoming final figures brought persistent selling and the shares have not joined in the recent strong market rise. Profits are expected to be the difference from last year's £53.7m. What dealers will be looking for are signs that the upturn in textiles is starting to work through. The shares were a subdued 123p.

Among the leaders Unilever reacted a further 26p to 47p after its profits and Glaxo 12p to 498p was also well done. Samuel up 3p to 83p supported in properties. Equity turnover on April 10 was £136.03m (25,216 bargains). Active stocks yesterday, according to Exchange Telegraph, were Shell, Unilever, ICI, Rank, BAT, Old, Royal Insurance, Bowater, Samuel Properties, Associated Dairies, BP, Oil Exploration, De Beers, Reynolds, Parsons, Costain, Andre Silenbioc, Derwent, Stamping, Laurence Scott, Thomson Organisation, AB Electronics and Burton "A".

Latest dividends

Company	Ord div	Year ago	Year's date	Year's total	Prev year
Alfred Holt (25p)	2.23	—	—	3.39	3.57
Booth (1st 25p) Fin	0.79	0.76	1/7	1.39	1.26
British Syphon (25p) Fin	2.25	1.67	4/7	3.0	2.4
City of Oxford (25p) Fin	6.02	5.2	13/7	9.02	8.2
Derwent Stamping (50p)	2.1	1.5	4/7	3.75	3.0
External Inv (21p) Fin	0.62	Nil	—	1.12	Nil
F. P. A. Coasts (25p) Fin	4.5	2.0	—	5.4	10.0
Charles Hill (21p) Fin	7	2.57	11/7	11.5	6.49
Jersey Gen (21p) Fin	2.1	1.5	4/7	3.75	3.0
Plaxton's (25p) Int	—	—	—	—	—
Trans & Gen (21p)	—	—	—	—	—

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on profits per share. Dividends in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.55.

British Land now possible Bridgewater suitor

By John Brennan

Mr John Ribbilar's British Land has stepped in as the next possible suitor for Bridgewater Estates. Bridgewater, the Lancashire-based agricultural land and investment holding group, has just successfully defended a 200p-a-share cash offer from Rothschild Investment Trust.

Rothschild has now sold on its 15.5 per cent stake in Bridgewater to BL at 212p a share, clearing a £250,000 profit on the deal. The property group approached RIT and arranged to buy the shares for cash raised by placing 2.07m new shares in the market. The placing, which was announced after the market closed, left BL's shares just 1p lower at 45p last night. The RIT purchase brought in 414,400 Bridgewater shares for £879,000. But, interestingly, in BL's announcement of the acquisition it reports that it has taken on 419,000 Bridgewater shares, only a further 4,600, but perhaps an indication of the group's forward thinking.

Mr J. L. Hacker, a Bridgewater director, says that there have been no talks with BL at any time and that he first knew of the sale shortly before its official announcement. In its bid defence against RIT Bridgewater argued that the group had a net asset value "of over 300p a share (£8.1m) and that expected growth in 1976's £548,000 pre-tax profits justified a 47 per cent increase in dividends to 20p gross per share.

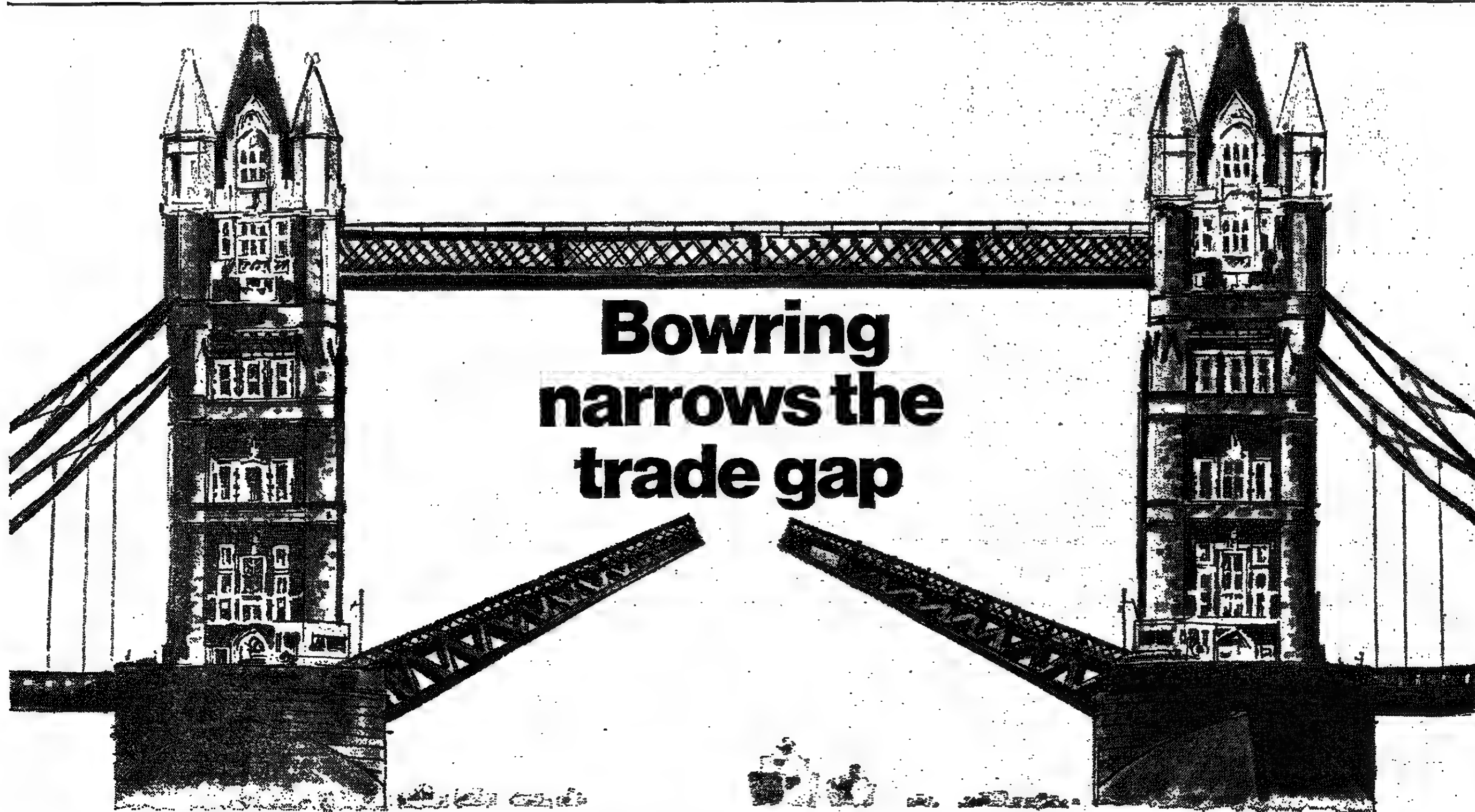
Gold Fields to take 51pc stake in R150m project

By Desmond Quigley

Gold Fields of South Africa, in which London-based Consolidated Gold Fields has a 49 per cent stake, is to take a controlling 51 per cent interest in Phelps Dodge's major copper development in the Northern Cape, South Africa.

A detailed feasibility study has indicated that the mine will cost R150m to bring to production and will take between two-and-a-half and three years. At today's metal prices total net revenues would be about R55m to R60m a year. Initially Phelps Dodge's interest in its subsidiary Black Mountain Mineral Development will be reduced to 49 per cent. However, the holding may be diluted further if Phelps Dodge does not participate in any further financing.

The agreement in principle, on GFSA's participation in the project was reached only after "extensive discussions with several South African mining companies", a Phelps Dodge statement notes. The statement comments that "several hurdles" have to be overcome before the arrangement can be completed. Details regarding transportation facilities and water supply remain to be worked out as well as the preparation of definitive agreements and satisfactory arrangements for financing, although the statement comments that "substantial progress has already been made towards the resolution of these issues."



Bowring narrows the trade gap

...with premium turnover in overseas currencies of £447,000,000 in 1976.

Bowring is one of the largest single contributors to this Country's invisible earnings. This contribution has resulted in C. T. Bowring (Insurance Holdings) Ltd. winning the Queen's Award for Export Achievement 1977.

During the past two years Bowring Insurance Broking has increased its premium turnover in overseas currencies two and a half times, namely from £177,000,000 in 1974 to £447,000,000 in 1976.

This is in addition to Bowring's overseas earnings from insurance underwriting, shipping, trading and banking and its income from overseas subsidiary and associated companies.



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مركز التمويل

FINANCIAL NEWS

EC's tax harmonization plans could ease Unilever's burden

Our Financial Staff
The EEC's tax harmonization plans could ease Unilever's burden. The company's tax on dividends would be reduced to a reasonable proportion. David Orr, the chairman, shareholders at yesterday's meeting, the present system in most countries does not allow shareholders to reduce their tax liability, which is particularly disadvantageous for multinational companies like Unilever.

Shareholders may well feel aggrieved that after a year of outstanding profit growth the company is not permitted to propose a dividend payment of more than 10 per cent above last year's, the chairman continued. Some relaxation of dividend control has been allowed for companies with substantial overseas investment, the chairman said, and Unilever has approached the Treasury asking whether it could be allowed exemption. However, the Treasury has informed Unilever that the policy guidelines under which some companies have been granted exemption are not intended to apply to firms like Unilever which have stable UK operations. Subsequently, the Treasury has clarified the rules in a way that clearly excludes us from exemption.



Mr. David Orr, chairman of Unilever.

Has Hill sails to take off

Our Financial Staff
The full year's results from the Hill of Bristol show little improvement took place in the second half. Pre profits for 1976 were more than halved to £170,000, compared with £382,000, on a record turnover of £13.5m, against £9m. The first half, however, was also more than halved, falling from £147,000 to £100,000. The board reported that the results were lower because of a variety of reasons, that the last half's figures would be better. The last half's profit was £105,000, he fell in trading profit for the year was even more marked, falling from £420,000 to £100,000. But with a credit for rest of £3,000, compared with a charge of £58,000, and not doubled associates' loss of £36,000, against £100,000, the decline at the pre level is softened. However, shareholders will be too dismayed - the total dividend is being boosted to 6.15p to 10p, with a 15p premium. An extraordinary item of £528,000, net a charge of £52,000 last year, is added to net profits. After allowing for the dividend, retained profit is up to £141,000 to £441,000. This group covers civil engineering, etc, ship-repairing engineering and transport, but the year's turnover excludes shipbuilding.

Booth leaps over £1m but stays cautious

By Ashley Druker
Turnover picking up at the onset of 1976 in both its raw stock business and English tanneries, Booth (International Holdings) finished the year to December 31 with the opening momentum more than maintained. Profits at midyear at £551,000, pre-tax already exceeded the previous best-ever for a full 12 months, and for the whole of 1976 profits more than doubled to £1.16m. This is the first time this group of hides and skins merchants and tanners has topped the £1m mark. It was achieved on turnover increased from £18.2m to £26.1m. Earnings a share, excluding extraordinary items, moved from 7.05p to 17.97p. The items, credit of £188,000 against a deduction of £2,000, arose mainly from the disposal of part of its various interests in Africa. It pays a final of 2.50p, plus an additional amount if the tax rate is reduced to 33.67p, which makes a total of 6.0p gross compared with 5.5p. The shares rose 2p to 54p.

The group's business is largely in two categories, including the tanning and finishing of hides and skins for leathers for the United Kingdom and overseas besides the merchandising of raw and partly processed hides and skins at home and abroad. Some 60 per cent of its turnover comes from overseas. As in the past, the board is cautious on the outlook for 1977 in spite of reporting a good opening to the present term.

Jolly BTR looks abroad

Andre Schembler is keeping his profits forecast firm to indicate how the time being so the running yesterday was made by predator BTR. It already has just over 25 per cent of Schembler's equity and recently raised its cash offer from 50p to 55p. The share price is of one for four. To fortify BTR Mr Roy Heston, Finance Secretary, is not referring the bid to the Monopolies Commission, nor incidentally the French S.A. of France acquisition of 25 per cent of Lord Industrial Group.

For its part BTR used the annual meeting to indicate how well the group is doing. It is concluded by the Take-Over Code from forecasting profits itself, but Sir David Nicolson, chairman and former chief of British Airways, was cheerful. Apart from reporting a strong upswing in sales, the chairman said that the group was seeking possible takeovers in the United States. He reminded his audience that BTR had already bought eight companies since he became chairman eight years ago.

Deritend 'rights' after late rally falls short

By Tony May
The coupling of a rights issue with a fall in profits by Deritend Stamping displeased the market, which promptly knocked 10p off the group's shares to leave them at 140p. This is still a discount of 26p on the rights price of 114p. The issue is a two-for-five and is designed to raise about £1m for the purchase of more manufacturing equipment, as well as the reduction of working capital. It is underwritten, and allotment letters will be posted to shareholders on May 27. Dealings are expected to start on May 30.

Despite a rally in the second half, pre-tax profits of this forgings, castings, electrical installation and repairs group are 9 per cent down at £1.2m for the year to end-February. Sales went up from £18.5m to £22.2m, pointing to a drop in margins from 7.07 per cent to 5.24 per cent. Earnings a share are 22p against 25.5p, while the dividend is raised from 12.62p to 13.8p gross.

This is a maximum payment and gives a yield of 9.8 per cent. The board forecasts that the dividend for the current year will be "at least" maintained on the increased capital. At half-way the recession caught up with some of the group's products, and new ones were not yet profitable. Profits fell 37 per cent to £467,000. However, a better second half was looked for, and indeed profits rose 27 per cent to £744,000 during that half, on sales up 43 per cent at £33.7m. Even so margins dipped from 6.25 per cent to 5.56 per cent, although this was an improvement on the 4.8 per cent of the first half.

Mr. Claude Perry, chairman, says that the forging and electrical divisions were well to the fore, and hopes that this upturn in demand will continue. Most of the group's companies have increased order books. But the results for the manufacturing division were "disappointing". Some subsidiaries are still not profitable after the depression, while some of the new companies are not yet in a position to contribute to group results.

Anglo American Corporation of South Africa, Limited

(Incorporated in the Republic of South Africa)



South Africa must prove it has the ability and will to eliminate the grievances and resentments behind black unrest

Mr. Harry Oppenheimer

Points from the statement by the Chairman, Mr. H. F. Oppenheimer

The growth of the economy at a rate sufficient to eliminate unemployment and provide rising standards of living for our rapidly growing population will be difficult or even impossible to achieve unless we can so order our affairs that investors abroad recover confidence in our social and political stability and are willing to participate on a substantial scale in our economic development.

External confidence

The disturbances which erupted last June in Soweto and the continuance of social unrest thereafter, have had an effect at least as detrimental to external confidence in our future as the tragedy of Sharpeville 17 years ago; and the maintenance of external confidence is even more important to our welfare now than it was then. There has until recently been an inclination to suppose that a rapid implementation of the policy of separate development and the granting of sovereign independence in various tribal areas made it less urgent, perhaps indeed unnecessary, to tackle energetically the problems and grievances of black people in the urban areas. If the riots which started in Soweto have served to dispel that notion they will not have been in vain.

Quality of life

There is a vital need for planning, organisation, finance and hard work for the purpose of improving the whole quality of life in the black urban areas. The primary responsibility lies with the government, but there is also a useful role for private South African citizens of goodwill, and particularly for the members of the business community, who may be in a position to help turn our black townships into places in which men may be able to live in comfort and with dignity.

Urban Foundation

We have accordingly joined with other leading South African businesses in forming an organisation to be known as the Urban Foundation, controlled by a board on which all our racial communities are represented, with the object of co-operating with all others concerned in the attainment of these objectives. The Foundation is raising initially a fund of R25 million, to which the Anglo American and De Beers groups have agreed to contribute R2 million each over a period of five years.

Need for political action

Since the basic reasons for the concern felt by foreign investors about South Africa are not financial or economic but political, they can only be removed by action in the political field. The fundamental question is whether we in South Africa are going to be able to give proof of the ability and the will to eliminate the grievances and resentments which lie behind the rioting and unrest in the black areas of our major cities.

Consolidated profit

The Corporation's consolidated profit for 1976 at R88.28 million, 65.3 cents an ordinary share, was 1.8 per cent higher than in 1975. Bearing in mind the generally depressed conditions during the year and in particular the substantially lower gold price, these results are satisfactory and illustrate the advantages of the Corporation's diversified investments and broadly-based sources of earnings. The ordinary dividend was unchanged at 33 cents a share and was covered almost twice by earnings. If the Corporation's share of the undistributed profits from its investments were to be taken into account, total earnings would be about 132 cents a share and the dividend would be covered four times.

For a copy of the Chairman's full statement, please send the coupon to the address below.

To: Anglo American Corporation of South Africa Limited, Room 45, 40 Holborn Viaduct, LONDON EC1P 1AJ

Name _____
Company _____
Address _____

Bowring

"Success built on hard work, initiative and loyalty"

At the A.G.M. held in London on 11th May the Chairman, Mr. Edgar Bowring, M.C. said

"We are very pleased and honoured that the contribution of the insurance industry to this country's 'invisible' exports, and the important part played in that by Bowring's Insurance Broking activities, has been recognised by a Queen's Award for Export Achievement.

London's position as the centre of insurance has been built up over some 300 years by winning the confidence of world insurers and reinsurers in the expertise, strength, integrity, ingenuity and independence of the London Market. It is vitally important that nothing should be done in the pursuit of political dogma or political expediency to undermine that confidence.

The success of all sectors of the Bowring Group during 1976 has been built on hard work, initiative and loyalty. These qualities have been severely tested by continual inflation; pay restraint and penal taxation.

1977 has started well."

	1975	1976	Increase
TURNOVER	£883m	£945m	+38%
PROFIT before tax and extraordinary items	£15.4m	£25.3m	+68%
EARNINGS PER SHARE before extraordinary items	8.5p	11.7p	+80%
DIVIDEND	3.538p	4.059p	+14%
RETAINED PROFIT after extraordinary items	£4.3m	£13.4m	+211%

Copies of the Report and Accounts may be obtained from the Secretary,

C. T. Bowring & Co. Ltd.

The Bowring Building, Tower Place, London EC3P 3BE
Tel: 01-283 3100 Telex: 888321

The Strength of Ultramar

Extracts from the Statement by the Chairman, Mr. Campbell Nelson

The year in brief

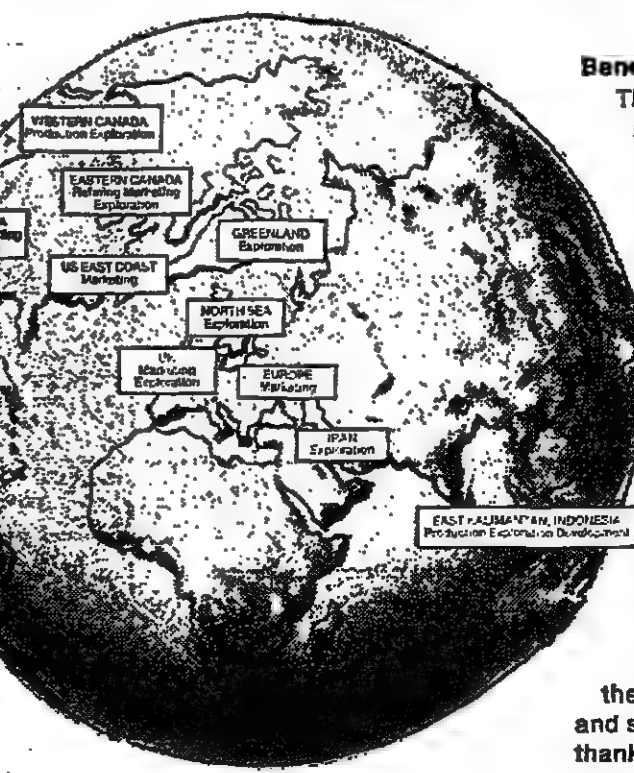
The financial results for 1976 were, on the whole, satisfactory. Group profit before taxation was £16.5 million and net earnings £11.3 million. These results were, however, markedly below the 1975 levels mainly because the adverse market conditions I referred to in my Statement last year persisted, particularly in our Quebec, Ontario and UK marketing operations.

In 1976 we had a Rights Issue, and two major loan financings. This injection of new funds enabled us to repay some short term loans, maintain our heavy capital expenditure programme and increase our working capital. As a result the Group Balance Sheet shows a much stronger position.

Where our strength lies

The strength of Ultramar is that it is a multinational integrated oil operation. It operates or buys or sells or has trading interests in twenty countries, and has oil and gas reserves in Indonesia, Western Canada and in the U.S.A., which we report for the first time in the Annual Report.

Even when the nationalisation of Venezuelan oil occurred at the end of 1975 Ultramar was able to absorb the loss of its oil reserves and royalties in that country and yet come up with its second best ever earnings the following year.



Investment and return

Our two greatest investments in recent years have been £84 million in Quebec and £56 million in Indonesia.

As regards Quebec we have not so far seen an acceptable return on our investment. I am confident we will: the outlook for 1977 is better than the results for 1976.

Our Indonesian oil production in 1976 gave us an appreciable addition to Group profits, but it is the gas and condensate production which will make a really significant difference to our operational results. Everything points to the liquefied natural gas operation starting up in a very few months time.

Benefits to shareholders

These two large investments could not have been possible without the forbearance, year after year, of shareholders over payment of cash dividends. I ask you to be patient for a little longer and let us show you the full results of your forbearance.

While we are projecting sharply reduced capital expenditures in 1977, our objective remains controlled, profitable growth. At the same time we are looking to increased benefits from recent capital investment out of which to begin the payment of cash dividends.

Thanks to staff

1976 was a testing year for the Staff of the Group. They stood all the strains and stresses, and I admire them greatly and thank them all on your behalf.

Outlook

There is great confidence in the Group that we shall do well in 1977. How much better is difficult to predict partly because of the uncertainty over currency exchange rates.

Operationally there has been a turn around in the difficult areas as well as a continuation of good performance in the areas in which we did well in 1976. In addition we expect to have the appreciable new source of profits from Indonesia gas and condensate in the second half of 1977.

The Annual General Meeting will be held at Winchester House, Old Broad Street, London EC2 on Wednesday 25th May at 11.30 a.m.

To obtain a copy of the 1976 Annual Report please complete and return the coupon below.

Summarised financial results

	1975	1976	1974	1973	1972
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Sales	571,575	275,344	251,454	171,728	123,041
Profit before taxation	16,477	22,574	14,449	9,885	6,391
Taxation	5,220	6,154	3,664	985	319
Net earnings	11,257	16,420	10,785	8,700	6,072
Capital expenditures	32,855	34,288	18,493	17,183	21,194
Earnings per ordinary share:					
Basic	23.0p	45.2p	29.7p	24.0p	17.5p
Fully diluted	27.0p		Not applicable		
Ordinary share distribution	1 for 15	1 for 15	1 for 15	1 for 20	1 for 25

Ultramar Company Limited

To: The Secretaries
Ultramar Company Limited,
2 Broad Street Place, London EC2M 7EP.

Name _____
Address _____



The name that's recognised for insurance around the world.

In 1976 that recognition earned us record profit everywhere.

- United Kingdom "...a most successful year."
- North America "...marked increase in business."
- Africa "...major progress."
- Australasia "...significant expansion."
- Far East "...rapid growth."
- Middle East "...a major increase."
- Europe "...expansion continued."
- South America "...exceptional progress."

"The pre-tax profit of £12,628,000 represents an increase of 84 per cent. This excellent result was largely due to the substantial increase in brokerage business, particularly from North America and to the strenuous efforts of the Management and staff of all companies. I thank them for their outstanding performance."

The Company has declared a 1 for 4 Bonus Issue.

1977 PROSPECTS

"The profits of 1976 and, to a lesser extent 1975, were enhanced by exchange profits and high interest rates, both of which factors are likely to have far less influence in the future. However, in those years and for many years before then, we achieved considerable growth in profits by increasing brokerage income and controlling the expense ratio and I expect that pattern to continue."

John Wallrock, Chairman.

	1976	1975
Profit before taxation	£2,000	£,000
Profit after taxation and minorities	12,628	6,855
Profit attributable to shareholders	5,928	2,910
Earnings per share	6.125	3.018
	15.07p	7.89p

The Report and Accounts, containing the Chairman's Review, are available from:

The Secretary, Minet Holdings Ltd, Minet House, 66 Prescot Street, London E1 8BU

FINANCIAL NEWS

Bubbling Brit Syphon set to expand in non-drink activities

By Ray Maughan

British Syphon Industries bubbled back to record profits in 1976 and prepares for further expansion this year.

After the doldrums of 1975, when demand for its drink dispenser and beer cooling equipment was flattened, pre-tax profits soared to a peak of £954,000 against £71,000. The previous peak was £807,000 for 1973.

The dispensing equipment division took pride of place in the year's improvement, it contributed 63.8 per cent of the £1.26m trading profit total and looks for further growth from its new cellar cooling products, a trend which is accelerating in the wake of the major brewers' substantial capital spending plans.

But the Sheffield-based board, headed by stockbroker Mr J. M. Anderson, is also keen to expand the non-drink activities. Particular investment targets include the cutlery and packaging operations which form part of the broad-based engineering division. Both activities are growing rapidly from their current small bases, cutlery is aimed to go further into the

giant United States market with the introduction of a new range of folding knives and packaging sales are to be extended beyond the limited radius of Sheffield customers.

New factories are to be provided this year for each operation at a net aggregate cost of £250,000 which brings total capital expenditure this year up from £318,000 to £568,000.

Cash flow is improving and the industrial merchandising division, which provided 13.4 per cent of 1976 trading profits, is a sound generator of cash.

Cash flow ran at £807,000 last year and any strain on working capital has been eased by a tighter control of stocks. A new £250,000 loan is about to be signed with Industrial & Commercial Finance Corporation, which has already lent almost £1m at 14 1/2 per cent. Overall debt was cut by £250,000 but interest paid dropped by only £11,000 to £307,000 as rates peaked towards the close of the year.

A final dividend of 1.222p per share boosts the total to 2.145p gross per share where the yield is 5.1 per cent at 42p, unchanged yesterday.

Anglo Am not looking for sharp gold rise

Gold is likely to stay above \$140 an ounce, says Mr Harry Oppenheimer, chairman of Anglo American Corporation of South Africa, forecasts in his annual statement.

He comments that the group is not looking for a reversal of the previous spectacular rise in the price, which in addition to its benefits brought considerable problems in its wake.

The rate of escalation in working costs on the mines has been declining over the last three years and the group is making every effort to maintain the trend. With gold holding above \$140 an ounce, the mines would receive a higher average price than last year's \$121 an ounce, which "should be sufficient at least to absorb the anticipated increase in costs", he adds.

price of per the new stocks field 13.08 per cent with the associated tax credit at the current rate, or 12.68 per cent with the tax credit at the rate proposed by the Chancellor. This is still comfortably ahead of the 10 per cent on the nearest equivalent gilt.

Kaduna rejection

The board of Kaduna Syndicate has written to shareholders urging them to reject the offer from Selukwe Gold Mining & Finance. Kaduna's chairman, Mr W. T. Meredith Brown, states that it is a "cash" company with a valuable Nigerian asset. "You are being asked to exchange these assets for paper of questionable value in a company with unproven management", he argues. Overall the Selukwe offer was "totally unacceptable".

Tricoville

A 19 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £245,000 for the half-year to January 19 comes from Tricoville. Turnover rose from £3.9m to £4.5m. The full year is expected to show a further rise in earnings.

Water issues

Terms for the new issues from Wrexham and East Denbighshire Water and Sutton District Water are announced. The coupon has been set at 8 1/2 per cent (net) on the redeemable preference stock. dated 1982, of which the former is offering £1.25m and the latter £1m. At the minimum offer

Farnell Elect

Although the general economic outlook is uncertain, Mr E. Long, chairman of Farnell Electronics, is confident that the group can maintain its record of continuing growth, both in turnover and profitability. The annual report shows that exports in the year to January 31 more than doubled to £1.24m, against £549,000. At the year-end, the ordinary holdings of Mr A. C. Farnell, life president, had been reduced to 30,000 shares, against 222,000 shares held by Mr R. Farnell's holding was 107,000 shares, compared with 110,000. Mr R. Farnell resigned in April.

One-for-2 rights and big payout at H. Vincent

Confectionery and toffee maker, Harry Vincent, proposes a one-for-two rights issue at 40p. This is a big discount on the market price of the shares, which rose 4p to 57p on the news. The group, which has a growing interest in wholesaling, intends to pay a dividend of 7p gross for the current year, compared with 3.04p for the year to June 26. The group is a "close" company and the last year's one director, Mr Edward Nassar, had a controlling interest.

NIPPON MINING

Nippon Mining Co plans issue of \$15m guaranteed notes, due June 1, 1982. Industrial Bank of Japan guarantees. Bank is Japan's sixth largest. The group's largest integrated non-ferrous metal producer in Japan and a big oil refiner. Interest coupon will probably be 7 1/2 per cent and are likely to be under par. Listing Luxembourg.

JORDAN PETROLEUM

Jordan Petroleum Refining is raising \$100m six year Euroloan at 12 per cent. London Interbank offered rates, say bankers. Management group being formed, by the Arab and Morgan Grenville Finance Co. A. Final details around May 18. Ten year redemption.

MARKS FOR QUEBEC

Quebec raised DM150m through ten year Eurobond, probably at 7 1/2 per cent and issue price of around par. Lead manager Commercial AG. Final details around May 18. Ten year redemption.

DEUTSCHE BANK LOAN

The \$125m ten year option being raised by Compagnie de la Deutsche Bank AG to carry 4 1/2 per cent coupon, will be issued around end of May. Shares closed option price \$123. Shares closed in Frankfurt yesterday at DM294.4.

BOWRING

Bowring, chairman Mr Edgar Bowring, said that based on latest figures available, 1977 has started well. He told annual meeting group is confident it can continue to go from strength to strength.

ALFRED WALKER & SON

Because of improved liquidity, company is buying a large area of land in Coltham for residential and industrial use. Interest payments and repayments of principal in Hongkong dollars. Coupon of 7 1/2 per cent indicated. Listing

JARDINES ISSUE
Jardines, Matheson and Co plans \$43m international issue of eight year bonds. Bonds to be issued in better form by Bearer Bank subject to unconditional guarantee from Jardines, Matheson. Subscription is United States dollars by international institutions. Interest payments and repayments of principal in Hongkong dollars. Coupon of 7 1/2 per cent indicated. Listing

Strong late growth at Allied Irish Bank

By Adrienne Gleeson

Profits growth at Allied Irish Banks accelerated in the second half of the year to end-March. This was thanks in part to elimination of the additional provisions against bad debts.

Pre-tax profits for the year rose from £16.4m to £22.97m, with £5m of the increase attributable to the second half of the year. The figures are struck after making special provisions, which in the year just ended amounted to £15m.

The group resumed dividend payments at half time, after a year's lapse. A final of 0.96p gives a total of 1.73p for the year.

The group had planned to reduce its borrowings by property sales in the second half, but the sudden jump in

interest rates put paid to the scheme for a while. Now, rates are down, sales are being ahead.

Mr Bryan Ward, the chairman, says that the expansion in the level of borrowings, plus much higher interest costs, will have a "significant effect" on results for the current year. Also, lower interest rates seem to be stimulating both the private housing market and property development, while the yields on which investment sales are based also show signs of improving.

Turnover for 1977 has been substantially secured. Action was taken during the year to reinforce the management of the wall panel manufacturing and marine sales divisions, and losses have now been stopped.

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Recovery at FPA as margins tighten

By Our Financial Staff

Cut-backs in the public sector and the lack of confidence for investment in the private, have meant "excessive competition" for the limited work available in the construction industry, and pressure on current margins at FPA Construction Group.

However, turnover rose from £23.1m to £23.6m in 1976, while pre-tax profits continued their recovery to end 1976 nearly 400 per cent up at £415,000, giving margins of 1.75 per cent, against 0.38 per cent. Earnings a share so down from 2.36p to 2.25p.

The group resumed dividend payments at half time, after a year's lapse. A final of 0.96p gives a total of 1.73p for the year.

The group had planned to reduce its borrowings by property sales in the second half, but the sudden jump in

interest rates put paid to the scheme for a while. Now, rates are down, sales are being ahead.

Mr Bryan Ward, the chairman, says that the expansion in the level of borrowings, plus much higher interest costs, will have a "significant effect" on results for the current year. Also, lower interest rates seem to be stimulating both the private housing market and property development, while the yields on which investment sales are based also show signs of improving.

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Commodities

Bank Base Rates

J. J. H. NIGHTINGALE & CO. LIMITED.									
62-63 Threadneedle Street, London E.C.2 R.P. Tel.: 01-555 5551									
1979/80	Low	Canary	Male	Female	Spent	W	W	W	W
1979/80	Low	Canary	Male	Female	Spent	W	W	W	W
96	87	Alapung Ord	34	42	12.4	6.7			
100	91	Alapung Ord	34	1.6	15				
32	25	Armitage & Rhodes	25	3.0	10.3				
119	95	Deborah Ord	119	8.2	7.4	6.0			
104	104	Deborah 174 CULS	130	17.5	13.5				
132	120	Frederick Parker	131	11.5	8.7	6.4			
43	43	Henry Byrnes	74	4.2	3.3	7.0			
253	253	John Suggs	85	8.2	6.2				
198	198	Robert Jenkins	253	4.0	25.0	9.7			
24	8	Twink Ord	14						
67	54	Twink Ord 12 CULS	64	12.0	19.4				
63	51	Unlock Holdings	39	6.1	10.2	7.5			
77	65	Walter Alexander	77	5.3	7.5	8.7			

Harter Consolidated
Services Limited,
P.O. Box 102,
Harter House,
Clark Street,
Stford, Kent
ME4 4RT.

130.6	92.8	Income Fund	130.7	130.5	7.00
93.4	92.8	International	77.3	82.2	4.92
130.0	92.7	Smaller Co's	130.0	137.5	0.75
Norwich Union Insurance Co.					
PG Max & Norwich Natl Mktg	1995 1996				
269.8	167.2	Group Natl Fund	269.3	267.3	2.00

For GEACOS Group see Brown Shipley

[illegible]

123.9	85.4	Unit Growth Fund	112.7	212.7	+
123.9	74.3	Opt 3 Equity	105.2	210.6	+
124.7		De Property	114.1	120.6	-
125.2	112.4	De High Yield	108.8	142.4	+
125.5	99.9	De Manager	120.5	121.2	+
125.8	105.0	De Deposit	114.0	173.0	+
127.7	112.1	Perm Dep Fund	122.7	156.4	+
129.4	168.3	De Equity Fund	120.0	197.6	+

[illegible][illegible][illegible]

1st Tuesday of month, 25; 1st and 2nd Thursday of
 month, 26; 3rd Thursday of month, 27; 1st
 Wednesday of month, 28; Last Thursday of
 month, 29; 3rd working day of month, 30; 16th of
 month, 31; 1st working day of month, 1; 20th of
 month, 33; 1st day of Feb. Mar. Apr. May, 34;
 3rd working day of month, 35; 19th of month, 36;
 4th of month, 37; 23rd of month, 38; 3rd
 of month, 39; 2nd and Wednesday of
 month, 40; 1st day of month, 41.

La creme de la creme Opportunities

—Managerial—Administrative—Secretarial—Personal Assistants—

ITALIAN SPEAKING SHORTHAND SECRETARY

Around £3,000

Working for 2 Senior Executives in a top American Management Consultancy you will have the opportunity to use your written and spoken Italian skills to travel extensively and need a reliable Secretary to handle their correspondence and telephone calls in English and Italian. Good shorthand and typing skills are essential, and you will have the opportunity to learn and use an automatic typewriter to produce first-class reports and correspondence. Phone Penny Notes on 01-404 5701.

CRIPPS SEARS AND ASSOCS (CONSULTANTS)

PERSONAL ASSISTANT FOR CHIEF EXECUTIVE-BERKSHIRE

The Chief Executive of an international group of companies is looking for a Personal Assistant to assist him in a variety of tasks. The successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of administrative and personal duties. The position offers a challenging and rewarding career opportunity. Please apply to: Mrs H. M. Rayner, Comptroller Limited, Brunel Way, Slough, Berkshire. Tel: Slough 30511.

PERSONAL SECRETARY

GREEN PARK To £4,000
A well organized and sophisticated businessman, who is a Director of several companies, has a variety of consultancy assignments, and is involved with a number of charities, needs a really competent and mature minded and alert P.A./Secretary, to help him in his work. You will have your own office in very pleasant surroundings, and have the opportunity of dealing with some quite influential people in a variety of interesting and important work.
Phone John Battersby on 404 5701.
CRIPPS SEARS & ASSOCS (Consultants)

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY BRUSSELS

SALARY EQUIVALENT TO £7,500 TO £8,000 P.A.
Required for the Managing Director of Squibb Pharmaceuticals situated in Brussels.
The candidate must have fluency in French or Dutch and English, be aged between 28-35 years, with mature outlook and high administrative capability. Assistance will be given to relocate.
Initial interview will be held in London and reply to: Susan Henderson, Department of Personnel and Industrial Relations, Squibb Europe Ltd., Regent House, Twickenham, Middlesex TW1 3OT.

TimeOut ADVERTISEMENT MANAGER

We are looking for someone, male or female, who is familiar with the production of a time-out programme, and who has experience in the current advertising practices and fully responsible for the production of the programme. The successful candidate will be responsible for the production of the programme, and will be involved in the selection of the programme, and will be responsible for the production of the programme. The salary is around £1,000 per week, with five weeks annual holiday and many other benefits. Please apply in writing to: Mr. J. H. Hargrave, Advertisement Director, Time Out, 378 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8BB. CLOSING DATE: MONDAY, MAY 16, 1977.

PERSONAL SECRETARY

An experienced Secretary 25-30, to assist a busy businessman in his office. The successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of administrative and personal duties. The position offers a challenging and rewarding career opportunity. Please apply to: Mrs H. M. Rayner, Comptroller Limited, Brunel Way, Slough, Berkshire. Tel: Slough 30511.

AUDIO SECRETARY

for MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS
Sales division of leading US firm Management Consultants needs a highly motivated and energetic Audio Secretary to assist in the sales of their products. The successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of administrative and personal duties. The position offers a challenging and rewarding career opportunity. Please apply to: Mrs H. M. Rayner, Comptroller Limited, Brunel Way, Slough, Berkshire. Tel: Slough 30511.

TOP SECRETARY/PA

urgently required for M.D. of a leading international family company. The successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of administrative and personal duties. The position offers a challenging and rewarding career opportunity. Please apply to: Mrs H. M. Rayner, Comptroller Limited, Brunel Way, Slough, Berkshire. Tel: Slough 30511.

GERMAN STEEL CO.

£4,100
Seeks hard-working, efficient Secretary. English mother tongue, English/German shorthand, capable of sending her own letters for diversified and demanding position (office near Oxford Circus).
Telephone Mr. Hargrave on 734 4787 or 734 9445.

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Printing & Publishing
An opportunity exists in a well established family company of Book and Journal Publishers based in Surrey for two persons with personal and enthusiastic to join our expanding Sales team. Salary £2,500 plus commission and company car and usual things benefits.
Please apply to: The Sales Manager, United Press Ltd., 100, Watling, Surrey GU2 0LH.

GERMAN?

£2,500 + bonus + £20 p.w. (OWN JOURNAL)
Secretaries with Admin. and English shorthand, for a leading international family company.
BOYS RECRUITMENT PLANNING LTD., 01-625 9751

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIES LTD.

PA/SEC c. £3,500 + V1
Senior Partner of a young, go-ahead company needs an efficient, well-organized Secretary who is able to manage the office, and to deal with the public. A knowledge of the office plus some audio sec.
AGE: 22-30 APPROX.
PA/SEC c. £3,500 W2
Company Secretary requires someone to assist him in his confidential duties. He is able to manage the office, and to deal with the public. A knowledge of the office plus some audio sec.
AGE: 22-30 APPROX.
PA/SEC £3,700 inc. SW1
Marketing Executive needs a well-organized, well-organized Secretary who is able to manage the office, and to deal with the public. A knowledge of the office plus some audio sec.
AGE: 22-30 APPROX.
PA/SEC £3,500 neg. KEW BRIDGE
Personal Assistant for a Chief Executive involved in a variety of consultancy assignments, and is involved with a number of charities, needs a really competent and mature minded and alert P.A./Secretary, to help him in his work. You will have your own office in very pleasant surroundings, and have the opportunity of dealing with some quite influential people in a variety of interesting and important work.
SEC/PA £3,200/£3,300 ECS
Young, dynamic MD of an expanding shipping company needs a capable Secretary who is able to manage the office, and to deal with the public. A knowledge of the office plus some audio sec.
For further details ring 01-625 7388

SECRETARY/PA FOR CRAFTS ORGANISATION

We are looking for a Secretary/PA for the Head of the Crafts Advisory Committee which helps promote the work of British artist-craftsmen.
If you have secretarial experience at a senior level and a genuine interest in the arts and in crafts, this should appeal to you.
We offer a starting salary of £3,400-£3,800, depending on experience plus 4 weeks' annual holiday.
Please contact Jan Ellis on 01-635 8000, ext. 35.
THE DESIGN COUNCIL,
28 Haymarket Square, London W1.

MARGERY HURST CENTRE

SENIOR SEC/PA £3,700
P.A. to a busy businessman in a leading international company. The successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of administrative and personal duties. The position offers a challenging and rewarding career opportunity. Please apply to: Mrs H. M. Rayner, Comptroller Limited, Brunel Way, Slough, Berkshire. Tel: Slough 30511.
SECRETARY/PA £3,500
P.A. to a busy businessman in a leading international company. The successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of administrative and personal duties. The position offers a challenging and rewarding career opportunity. Please apply to: Mrs H. M. Rayner, Comptroller Limited, Brunel Way, Slough, Berkshire. Tel: Slough 30511.

ADVERTISING £3,500
We are looking for a young, go-ahead company needs an efficient, well-organized Secretary who is able to manage the office, and to deal with the public. A knowledge of the office plus some audio sec.
AGE: 22-30 APPROX.
ADVERTISING £3,500
We are looking for a young, go-ahead company needs an efficient, well-organized Secretary who is able to manage the office, and to deal with the public. A knowledge of the office plus some audio sec.
AGE: 22-30 APPROX.

Could you recruit another SENIOR SECRETARY as good as yourself?

If you know a good Secretary who you are sure, perhaps you would like to take charge of clerical and secretarial recruitment at our firm. We are looking for a person who is able to manage the office, and to deal with the public. A knowledge of the office plus some audio sec.
AGE: 22-30 APPROX.

SECRETARY FOR DIRECTORS

£3,500
International Company in Communications, and experienced Secretary. The successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of administrative and personal duties. The position offers a challenging and rewarding career opportunity. Please apply to: Mrs H. M. Rayner, Comptroller Limited, Brunel Way, Slough, Berkshire. Tel: Slough 30511.

£3,500-£4,000 VERSATILE SECRETARY/PA

Small City office. 3 International lawyers, need personable, educated, adaptable Secretary with initiative, responsible to them and with one other for all secretarial duties and office administration, also the bookkeeping if possible. Call Elizabeth Clarke, 606-8598.

£4,000+

PA WANTED. A young intelligent person capable of co-ordinating a growing company. The successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of administrative and personal duties. The position offers a challenging and rewarding career opportunity. Please apply to: Mrs H. M. Rayner, Comptroller Limited, Brunel Way, Slough, Berkshire. Tel: Slough 30511.

YOUNG SUCCESSFUL MAYFAIR ART DEALER NEEDS FIRST CLASS PA/SECRETARY

Salary £3,500 Contact Liz Moore
JUDY PARQUHARSON LTD.,
17 Stratton St. (Green Park),
London W1. 01-493 8821

SECRETARY/P.A.

for Interior Design Company working for young Director (in sales side). Career minded person with responsibility for presentation, creative atmosphere. £2,500 + L.V.
Phone Marjorie Fox 023-0111
Alfred Marks Bureau

CONTACT LENS PRACTICE, W.1

Requires Secretary/Receptionist. P.A. ability and initiative to organize help, clean Principal. Salary negotiable.
TEL: 01-486 0608

WE SPEAK YOUR LANGUAGE ...

WINE & SPIRIT COMPANY
As Secretary to Marketing Manager you will be responsible for a wide range of administrative and personal duties. The position offers a challenging and rewarding career opportunity. Please apply to: Mrs H. M. Rayner, Comptroller Limited, Brunel Way, Slough, Berkshire. Tel: Slough 30511.
SPANISH LEISURE BUSINESS
Now Marketing Manager needs a well-organized, well-organized Secretary who is able to manage the office, and to deal with the public. A knowledge of the office plus some audio sec.
AGE: 22-30 APPROX.

HIGH LEVEL COMMITTEE SECRETARY

The charity Voluntary and Christian Service and its associated organizations are involved in a variety of consultancy assignments, and is involved with a number of charities, needs a really competent and mature minded and alert P.A./Secretary, to help him in his work. You will have your own office in very pleasant surroundings, and have the opportunity of dealing with some quite influential people in a variety of interesting and important work.
We offer a starting salary of £3,400-£3,800, depending on experience plus 4 weeks' annual holiday.
Please contact Jan Ellis on 01-635 8000, ext. 35.
THE DESIGN COUNCIL,
28 Haymarket Square, London W1.

BILINGUAL SECRETARY ENGLISH/GERMAN

SALARY TO £3,400 P.A.
The successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of administrative and personal duties. The position offers a challenging and rewarding career opportunity. Please apply to: Mrs H. M. Rayner, Comptroller Limited, Brunel Way, Slough, Berkshire. Tel: Slough 30511.

International Secretaries The language people

**ROYAL FREE HOSPITAL
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
(University of London)**
SECRETARY
required for Professor of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Royal Free Hospital, Hampstead. Good typing and shorthand skills essential. Own office with IBM typewriter. Salary according to age and experience on scale £2,000 to £3,618 including London allowance. Apply in writing to the Secretary, Royal Free Hospital, 5 Hunter St., London WC1N 1BP.

ARE YOU VERSATILE ENOUGH?

The young MD of a small, rapidly expanding company with offices in London and the Midlands needs a versatile Secretary to organize his travel arrangements, personal and business affairs, and to act as a liaison between the company and the public. The position offers a challenging and rewarding career opportunity. Please apply to: Mrs H. M. Rayner, Comptroller Limited, Brunel Way, Slough, Berkshire. Tel: Slough 30511.

ARE YOU VERSATILE ENOUGH?

The young MD of a small, rapidly expanding company with offices in London and the Midlands needs a versatile Secretary to organize his travel arrangements, personal and business affairs, and to act as a liaison between the company and the public. The position offers a challenging and rewarding career opportunity. Please apply to: Mrs H. M. Rayner, Comptroller Limited, Brunel Way, Slough, Berkshire. Tel: Slough 30511.

DULWICH

Partner of professional firm needs very competent Secretary to assist in the management of the office. The position offers a challenging and rewarding career opportunity. Please apply to: Mrs H. M. Rayner, Comptroller Limited, Brunel Way, Slough, Berkshire. Tel: Slough 30511.

PA/SECRETARY

Entrepreneur with interests in property, photography and art. Needs a competent, versatile Secretary to assist in the management of the office. The position offers a challenging and rewarding career opportunity. Please apply to: Mrs H. M. Rayner, Comptroller Limited, Brunel Way, Slough, Berkshire. Tel: Slough 30511.

LEGAL SECRETARY—W1

Partner of young go-ahead firm of Solicitors seeks a competent, versatile Secretary to assist in the management of the office. The position offers a challenging and rewarding career opportunity. Please apply to: Mrs H. M. Rayner, Comptroller Limited, Brunel Way, Slough, Berkshire. Tel: Slough 30511.

INSIDE THE CITY! PA/SECRETARY

required for one of the most important jobs in the City. The successful candidate will be responsible for a wide range of administrative and personal duties. The position offers a challenging and rewarding career opportunity. Please apply to: Mrs H. M. Rayner, Comptroller Limited, Brunel Way, Slough, Berkshire. Tel: Slough 30511.

INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS

After 6 happy years I am leaving to live in the country. Would you like to replace me? You would need to speak French, to have at least three years' secretarial experience and be able to operate a telex. You would also need a sense of humour and plenty of energy to look after two busy gentlemen and run the office (2 mins. Waterloo). Salary £3,500 + L.V.s + 4 weeks' holiday.
Please telephone
01-928 5265/5755

Consider the sm, responsibility and job satisfaction of dealing with the administrative needs of a small, educational mail order set-up in West London. Commencing salary of £3,750.

Monica Grove Recruitment Ltd (029 1082) are interviewing candidates now for this postal post for which you will need a typing speed of 100/60, much initiative, an unflappable temperament and a PR attitude which will enable you to establish friendships both internally and with the many students planning or writing in for your help. You will have two staff to delegate to, but yours is the final responsibility! Your boss needs some secretarial service and your own ideas on new projects.

Non-secretarial Appointments

Thomson Scottish Petroleum Limited
BOOK-KEEPER

A book-keeper is required to join a young financial team in the West End office of this North Sea oil company. The company is part of a consortium which has discovered two commercial fields and continues with further exploration. The position has become available due to the promotion of the present book-keeper to fill the ever expanding work in this fast growing company.
A quick, yet methodical mind and a high degree of accuracy are essential requirements. The book-keeping is complex involving the books of account of five separate companies.
Experience in manual book-keeping to trial balance stage is essential. Other duties include the payment of sundry creditors, petty cash items and sundry analysis work.
Salary circa £3,500 p.a. plus L.V.s and five weeks' annual holiday.
For application form, please ring
Mrs J. S. Hughes,
THE THOMSON ORGANISATION LIMITED,
4 Stratford Place, London, W1A 4YG.
Tel. 01-492 0521.

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Starts at your Reception ... One of the most important jobs in your Company is the Receptionist. Creating the all-important first impression when people walk in and the even more important last impression when they walk out.
The efficient and friendly telephone manner of the Receptionist can make all the difference to your company image.
Yes, you need a very special person. That's why we have created a special department with expertise in selecting the essential qualities in the right person for you.
Contact our Receptionist Division ...

Bernadette of Bond Street No.55...next door to Fenwicks WE ARE RECRUITING FOR

A holding Company with beautiful offices in Mayfair who need an intelligent, bright young Receptionist, able to cope with lots of international calls on PABX.
Salary £2,800-£3,000. 01-629 7363

BRANCH SALES SUPERVISOR (West London)

circa £3,500 to £4,000
Age 25 to 35 with experience and ability to run a lively sales office for management services company. Initiative and a genuine desire to work and succeed in a people business are prerequisites. The annual earnings are made up from salary and regular bonuses.
Telephone in the first instance to Eleanor Marks, Area Executive, Reliance Service Group, 952 7315.

CREATIVE TYPIST PLUS

£2,600 with good bonus & perks. The Company is looking for a highly motivated and energetic person to assist in the management of the office. The position offers a challenging and rewarding career opportunity. Please apply to: Mrs H. M. Rayner, Comptroller Limited, Brunel Way, Slough, Berkshire. Tel: Slough 30511.

BOOKKEEPER

£4,000 p.a. (with review) for London office. Park Lane of major German organization requiring high capital value company. The bookkeeper works on own initiative in a friendly team and is responsible for a wide range of administrative and personal duties. The position offers a challenging and rewarding career opportunity. Please apply to: Mrs H. M. Rayner, Comptroller Limited, Brunel Way, Slough, Berkshire. Tel: Slough 30511.

PERSONNEL PERSON

Do you want to work with people? Do you want to be involved in a variety of interesting and challenging work? Do you want to be part of a team that is growing and expanding? The position offers a challenging and rewarding career opportunity. Please apply to: Mrs H. M. Rayner, Comptroller Limited, Brunel Way, Slough, Berkshire. Tel: Slough 30511.

MODEL/GIRL FRIDAY

We are an international fashion house situated in W.1. We are looking for a model/girl Friday to assist in the management of the office. The position offers a challenging and rewarding career opportunity. Please apply to: Mrs H. M. Rayner, Comptroller Limited, Brunel Way, Slough, Berkshire. Tel: Slough 30511.

TIME TO SPARE?

Then work with Manager in the City for at least 3 to 4 months on a variety of interesting and well paid clerical assignments. For further details please ring Jill Brockman on 355 8833, Mansourville Ltd. The Worldwide Service Group.

The Overseas Division of Bowater-Scott, based in Knightsbridge needs an efficient

SECRETARY/ASSISTANT

To take over from the present holder of the post who has recently been promoted to one of our sales forces.
Working in a friendly and pleasant environment, the person appointed will enjoy interesting and varied responsibilities which will include dealing with overseas clients, preparing memoranda and documentation for overseas travel, and the administration of a small operating unit. Good shorthand and typing speeds are essential of course, but above all we are looking for a mature and responsible approach, the ability to work without supervision and a marked degree of personal initiative in return we are offering an attractive salary plus company benefits.

Please apply, quoting Reference 0/237, to
Helen Harrison,
BOWATER-SCOTT CORPORATION LIMITED,
Bowater House, 68 Knightsbridge, London, SW1X 7LR.
Tel: 01-581 1330, ext. 332.

US\$18,000 TAX FREE Start in Cairo ...

The Divisional Manager of an oil field operation needs an Executive Secretary to assist him in a variety of administrative and personal duties. The position offers a challenging and rewarding career opportunity. Please apply to: Mrs H. M. Rayner, Comptroller Limited, Brunel Way, Slough, Berkshire. Tel: Slough 30511.

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Exciting, well trained job with a construction company for a Market Analyst. The position offers a challenging and rewarding career opportunity. Please apply to: Mrs H. M. Rayner, Comptroller Limited, Brunel Way, Slough, Berkshire. Tel: Slough 30511.

MARKET INFORMATION OFFICER

For food industry, south west London. The position offers a challenging and rewarding career opportunity. Please apply to: Mrs H. M. Rayner, Comptroller Limited, Brunel Way, Slough, Berkshire. Tel: Slough 30511.

BRITISH GENIUS EXHIBITION

For food industry, south west London. The position offers a challenging and rewarding career opportunity. Please apply to: Mrs H. M. Rayner, Comptroller Limited, Brunel Way, Slough, Berkshire. Tel: Slough 30511.

PERSONNEL OFFICER

For food industry, south west London. The position offers a challenging and rewarding career opportunity. Please apply to: Mrs H. M. Rayner, Comptroller Limited, Brunel Way, Slough, Berkshire. Tel: Slough 30511.

BOOKKEEPING IN CHELSEA

Bookkeeper, Chelsea. The position offers a challenging and rewarding career opportunity. Please apply to: Mrs H. M. Rayner, Comptroller Limited, Brunel Way, Slough, Berkshire. Tel: Slough 30511.

MEDICAL RECEPTIONIST

Required for University Health Centre. The position offers a challenging and rewarding career opportunity. Please apply to: Mrs H. M. Rayner, Comptroller Limited, Brunel Way, Slough, Berkshire. Tel: Slough 30511.

ARE YOU DYNAMIC?

attractive and efficient with most secretarial skills. The position offers a challenging and rewarding career opportunity. Please apply to: Mrs H. M. Rayner, Comptroller Limited, Brunel Way, Slough, Berkshire. Tel: Slough 30511.

SOUTH OF FRANCE

2 girls married couple required for the month of July to cook for party 8-12 people in villa at Villeneuve. Must have current driving licence. One day plus most afternoons free per week. References required. Please write Box No 1200 J, The Times.

MEDICAL RECEPTIONIST

Required for busy group practice near Sloane Square, S.W.1. or shorthand useful but not essential. Hours flexible. 9-5. £2,750 + L.V.s.
Phone: 01-235 6942 after 10 a.m.

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Would advertisers please note that the deadline for copy on the Creme de la Creme column is 1.00 p.m.

